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THE TIMES

Tomorrow

Breakfast television may not be taking audiences by storm but it will have a profound effect on the coming election campaign. David Butler reports on the problems of politics round the clock.

Gavin Stamp speculates on the outcome of a new competition that could decide the future of one of London's best known land marks.

For three years the Forestry Commission has been counting Britain's trees with the help of a computer. Hugh Clayton takes a quizzical look at the figures.

***Saturday* tomorrow includes the weekend guide to the best events in Leisure, the arts and entertainment.**

Whitelaw yields on police access to medical records

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government climbed down yesterday over its plans to allow police access to confidential medical and other personal records, after a determined campaign by doctors and churchmen.

Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, told the Commons that he had taken seriously and sympathetically their anxieties that the provisions of Clause 10 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill, would adversely affect their confidential relationships with those who sought their help.

He had decided to bring forward amendments so that confidential personal records relating to the work of the medical and other caring professions, including priests and social workers, should be exempt from the clause.

Mr. Whitelaw also indicated that he would be responding to journalists that the Bill will force them to disclose sources of confidential information.

Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State at the Home Office, will meet representatives of the profession, including the National Union of Journalists, the Guild of British Newspaper Editors, the Newspaper Society and the Press Council, on Monday to discuss changes.

Under the Bill as drafted, police investigating a "serious arrestable offence" could have sought an order from a circuit judge allowing them to search the premises of doctors, psychiatrists, social workers, priests, and others for evidence.

Mr Whitelaw, in a written reply to Sir Edward Gardner, chairman of the Conservative backbench home affairs committee, made clear that articles held on a confidential basis, other than personal records, would remain within the scope of the clause, although further safeguards are to be proposed over their production. Officials later said that such articles might include bloodstained clothes or bullets.

Officials explained later that Mr Whitelaw had been much influenced by the criticism of doctors who had explained that although they were not concerned about records being taken, they feared their patients would believe their records were at risk.

The Government's climbdown over the Bill was not only a reaction to the strength of opposition to the proposals, which surprised ministers, but also a recognition that the Bill was highly unlikely to get through the House of Lords in its present form.

The changes were welcomed by the Opposition last night. Mr Roy Hattersley, Shadow Home Secretary, said the Government's decision was obviously right and vindicated the campaign supported by the professional organizations most affected.

"It now seems extraordinary that the Government should have made such repressive proposals and that those of us who originally objected to them should have been accused of helping crime and assisting the criminals."

● Doctors, church leaders and lawyers who united in their oppositin to the Bill's provisions on police searchse, welcomed the concessiion yesterday (Frances Gibb writes).

The British Medical Association said the controversial claus had "represented a most serious threat to the diagnosis and treatment of patients". It was "grateful to the Home Secretary for having recognized this danger by removing medical records from the Bill."

The association said it would still seak the extension of the Government's undertakings to cover tissues and tissue fluids obtained in the course of diagnosis and treatment of patients. Doctors would continue to cooperate with the police in the investigation of very grave crimes and it was signficant, the association added, there were no cited examples of public security being ednangered thrugh doctors not cooperating in such cases.

The Rev James Thompson, Bishop of Stepney, who with the Bishop of Kensington led a protest by more than fifty Church of England bishops, also welcomed the change. "But it is important to remember we have been concerned about the Bill as a whole which we want to try to get right for the community. Just because this issue has been tackled, that is not the end of the story."

The Law Society, which already had exemption under the Bill for legal documents claiming "legal professional privilege" but not for other records held by solicitors in confidence, gave a cautious welcome.



Walking the course: Master Peter Phillips taking his father in hand after Captain Phillips had competed in the dressage at the Badminton Horse Trials yesterday.

Maestro strikers vote to stay out

By Barrie Clement Labour Reporter

More than 5,000 workers at BL's Cowley plant in Oxfordshire voted overwhelmingly to stay on strike yesterday amid warnings from management that prolonged action would jeopardize investment. Last night the action was made official.

The dispute so far has cost £60m, stopped production of the newly-launch Maestro car for a fortnight and has constituted the most serious industrial relations problem a t the company for many years. Around 4,000 other BL men have been made idle.

The stoppage is ostensibly over BL's decision to withdraw "washing up time" during shifts, but the dispute is merely one symptom of breadkdown in the relationship between the company and its Cowley employees and a sign of increasingly militancy.

Workers at the plant angry at what they regard as the autocratic attitue adopted by a mangement attempting to raise productivity.

No further meetings are planned at the plant until next Friday, but there will now be closer involvement of national officers of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

The Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service is likely to intervene in an attempt to resolve the dispute.

Shop stewards at the works had recommended rejection of a revised peace formula from the company which would have phased out cleaning up time over a longer period.

Management also said that, with the cooperation of the workforce, it expected higher bonus earnings would be possible from May 16.

But the union says there can be no return to work until BL gives up its attempts to bring Cowley into line with other works and phase out cleaning up time.

Mr David Buckle, Oxford district secretary of the TGWU, told the strikers yesterday: "Some people believe this is an olive branch from the company. It is a stinging nettle and if you grasp it you will be stung."

Mr Harold Musgrove, Austin Rover chairman, has warned that a project to build a new executive car, codenamed XX, scheduled to be built by BL and Honda, was under threat because of the stoppage.

● The Ford Motor Company yesterday announced a fresh attempt to persuade workers at its Halewood plant in Merseyside to accept radical changes in working practices. Unions have threatened to strike over the attempt to introduce what they call "Japanese-style" patterns of work (The Press Association reports).

Ford hopes to show all 9,700 employees a video film intended to allay their fears.

Guard on £2m armed raid charge

A guard working for Security Express was charged yesterday with the attempted armed robbery of £2,241,965 from his employers at Christopher Street, Islington, North London, on March 9.

Alan David Rooslan, aged 29, is also accused of the armed robbery of £135,000 from Security Express and McDonalds on November 26 last year, at McDonalds in High Road, Tottenham. He will appear at Old Street Magistrates Court today.

Solidarity calls May 1 protest

The underground Solidarity leaders called for mass May Day protest against Polish government policies. Mr Lech Walesa, whose wife was interrogted yesterday, said he had not signed the appeal but did not necessarily distance himself from it Back page

Adelman in

The US Senate confirmed the controversial appointment of Mr Kenneth Adelman as director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, setting aside doubts about his qualifications.

Judge dies

Judge Christmas Humphreys, Zen Buddhist, poet, herbalist and Shakespearean scholar, has died at his home in London. He was 82 and still the active leader of the Buddhist society he founded Obituary, page 12

Ripper in court

Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper, gave evidence in court against a fellow prisoner accused of slashing him in the face with a glass jar Page 3

MPs' pay-offs

...ost displaced or rejected MPs ...l be intitled to redundancy ...ments, normally restrited to ...se who unsuccesfully contest ... election, because boundary ...anges mean that more than ... constituencies will officially ...se to exist at the next general ...ection Page 2

Miners' claim

The National Union of Mineworkers is demanding a four-day week and retirement at 55 for its members, in return for allowing the introduction of new technology Page 2

Hitchens dies

Gerry Hitchens, who played football for England, Aston Villa and Italian clubs, died playing for a local team at Hope, near Wrexham. He was 48. Obituary, page 12

Wales: A three-page Special Report on efforts to attract new industries and holiday visitors to the Principality Pages 13, 15

Tory MPs pin hopes on June election

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The first parliamentary week since the Easter recess reached its climax yesterday with MPs of all parties preoccupied, above all else, with the quesion of when the Parliament will end.

Conservatives, who know no more than their political opponents what may be in the mind of the Prime Minister, hope that some clue may emerge from the private meeting today at which Mrs Margaret Thatcher will rally those Conservative candidates who are not yet MPs.

Among backbench Conservatives the ardour for a June election remains undimmed by the latest dip in the opinion polls, with Gallup in yesterday's *Daily Telegraph* reporting a halving of the Government's lead over Labour in the course of a month, and the Alliance parties falling back into third place.

A clear majority of Conservative MPs appear convinced that

Mr Francis Pym: Advising caution

they would not necessarily win a June election, but that their party would have a distinctly better chance of success in June than later. Nonetheless the polls have also helped confirm the view of those ministers, including Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, and Mr John Biffen, Leader of the Commons, who would prefer an October election.

Mr Harold Wilson's fate in June, 1970, the last time there was a summer election, was cited as evidence of how opinion polls could flatter and deceive even when voters were less changeable than today's. After long months of trailing the Conservatives in the polls, Labour then dound itself given *a seven point lead by Gallup in* May and again in June. But by polling day they were beaten, securing 3½ per cent less of the popular vote than Mr Heath's Conservatives.

Labour opinion is also divided, with most backbenchers unused to the party's mood at peace and still nrevous of a June election. Mr Michael Foot would prefer an October date, believing that his front bench team will campaign effectively in the summer to sell their policies.

However, some of his senior colleagues have suddenly grown more confident. Results of early canvassing for the district elections next month, reported to Labour's south London headquarters, are said to show a marked increase in support.

Labour workers believe that the Falklands factor, which gave the Government marked support a year ago, has now faded and that the publication last month of Labour's campaign document has reawakened interest in their plans.

In the Commons yesterday, Mrs Thatcher, election or not, was willing enough to rubbish the Labour programme for economic recovery. Asked by an obliging Conservative to estimate the cost of Labour's plans he suggested a figure of between £30,000m and £40,000m a year. "The whole thing will be totally disastrous but they will never get the chance to implement it," she added.

Training in Forces offered to jobless

By Philip Webster Political Reporter

Unemployed school-leavers were yesterday offered the chance of joining the Armed Forces for a year's engagement devoted to training and work experience for which they will receive a £25 weekly allowance *under the Government's training scheme.*

The Government is making 5,200 places available in the services for young volunteers, 3,700 in the Army, 1,000 in the RAF and 500 in the Royal Navy. The great majority will be for boys. The Army is unable to offer any places for girls, the Navy is offering up to 50 places for girls aged 17, and the RAF a small number.

Announcing details of the scheme in the Commons, Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary fo State for Defence, defended it against fierce Labour criticism amd denied that it was to be seen as the forerunner of an attempt to introduce conscription.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher had earlier predicted a great demand for the limited places available. Many young people would wish to play a part in defending their country, she said.

The volunteers, who will be able to apply by going to their local recruitment offices, will receive the same basic training as regualr servicemen and women and some will go on to learn skills and trades. They will have to satisfy existing Armed Forces' entry standards and be able to leave at any time on 14 days' notice. Regulars normally serve at least a three year engagement.

Ten pounds a week will be deducted from their £25 allow-

Continued on back page, col 3

Building societies welcome base rate cut to 10%

By Frances Williams and Baron Phillips

The big four clearing banks yesterday took the hint from the Bank of England and cut their base lending rates by half a percentage point to 10 per cent. But a further cut in rates now looks some way off.

The move, which brings base lending rates back of their level at the begining of the year, has given a welcome reprieve to Britain's five million home owners threatened by higher mortgage interest rates.

National Westminster led the way after the Bank of England cut its key money market dealing rates for the second day running. This was an unmistakable signal that it was willing to see a drop in base rates after more than a week of resistance. The previous half point cut came on Budget day a month ago.

The authorities have been anxious to temper hopes of rapid cuts in interest rates, because they fear this could put sterling under pressure and make monetary control more difficult.

The money supply is now growing at the top of its target range and may overshoot this month because of the Government's spending spree at the end of the financial year, revealed in official figures on Wednesday.

The authorities will want to see the money supply clearly under control or a significant strengthening of sterling, perhaps following a cut in American interest rates, before sanctioning a further reduction in lending costs. This is likely to be some weeks away.

Sir Terence Beckett, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, welcomed yesterday's reduction which he said would benefit industry by £135m a year.

But real rates were still high. "We want further cuts to boost the recovery that is just beginning to happen", he said.

There was little reaction in the foreign exchange markets where the cut has been generally expected. The pound rose 0.4 cents to $1.5045. Its trade-weighted index slipped 0.4 to 82.4, reflecting losses against European currencies which were more than made up in late trading.

Overdraft rates will fall by half a percentage point from today.

The building societies have been saying for some weeks that unless the banks lowered their interst rates, the cost of mortgages would have to rise.

The extent of the danger was known yesterday when the Building Societies Association said that net receipts in March were only £379m, well below the £700m which is necessary to maintain the lending level.

A total of £1,912m was lent to home-buyers during February and a further £1,905m was promised to mortgage applicants. At the end of last month the building society movement was committed to lend £4,203m.

Mr Richard Weir, the association's secretary general, said last night: "The reduction eases the upward pressure on building society interest rates but nevertheless base rates are still a full percentage point above the levels established when the mortgage rate was reduced to 10 per cent in November."

But he said that further reductions in base rates would be necessary for the movement to stay competitive for attracting investment.

Money growth, page 17

Spitfire sold for £260,000

A Second World War Spitfire fighter, sold for £260,000 at a Christie's auction yesterday, will stay in Britain. The Spitfire, a Mark IX, reckoned by pilots to be the best of its type, was bought by an unnamed British syndicate.

Squadron Leader Ray Hanna, who bid for the aircraft on behalf of the syndicate, said: "We all wanted to keep the aeroplane in Britain. It belongs to this country." The auction was held at Duxford airfield, near Cambridge.

Squadron Leader Hanna, a former leader of the RAF Red Arrow display team, said he hoped to fly the Spitfire away *later. He did not know where it* would be kept.

Thatcher backs Cunard

By Anthony Bevins Political Correspondent

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, yesterday supported the Cunard decision to send the Cunard Countess to a Maltese shipyard for a post-Falklands refit.

She told MPs during Commons question time: "It does not seem to me unreasonable to say that we must have the ship back in the condition in which she was chartered by a certain date."

Efforts had been made, she said, to find a British yard which could carry out the refit in time for the ship to be back in the Caribbean, for cruise work, on July 9.

"It was vital", she said, "that the ship should be back on duty by July 9. It is disappointing that yards which did so well during the Falklands war were not able, in peacetime, to match that."

Mr Michael Foot, the Opposition leader, said that the Prime Minister's response would add to the country's sense of outrage. "If she is so unwilling or unable to do anything about it, will she at least cease the hypocrisy of exhorting people to buy British?", he asked.

He also asked whether the Government supported the "stiff" penalty clause which Cunard had imposed on the contract, and suggested that since the Ministry of Defence would bear 40 per cent of the cost of the refit, the Government could have threatened to withhold its contribution unless the work was done in British yards.

Mrs Thatcher insisted that Cunard had its own cruise deadlines to meet, and that non-British yards had been able to accept the penalty.

Parliamentary Report, page 4

Attenborough flies into storm of protest

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

Sir Richard Attenborough arrived back in London from his Oscar-winning triumph in Los Angeles at the centre of a storm over his decision to attend a whites-only première of his film *Gandhi* in South Africa.

He said he was determined to attend the première. In the Commons, Mrs Margaret Thatcher rejected a suggestion that she should ask Sir Richard not to go to South Africa. It was a matter for Sir Richard. "He must be free wholly to decide this on his own grounds."

The Anti-Apartheid Movement delivered a letter of protest signed by its chairman, Mr Robert Hughes MP, which Sir Richard read on his arrival home, and later the movement received a statement from the UN.

The message, signed by Mr E. S. Reddy, an assistant secretary general at the UN with special responsibilities for apartheid matters, said: "A première limited to whites will be plasphemy. It will be entirely against the spirit of Gandhi and the principles of the UN. The question is not merely that the director of the film will attend the première but whether the film, which was made in cooperation with India and deals with the life of Gandhi, shall be made abvailable for a premiere showing to a racially segregated audience."

Sir Richard said: "Obviously I thought about it hard and long. The first thing I had asked was that the film be shown to mixed audiences. I was told this was out of the question as there was no such thing in South Africa, and the only way the film could be shown was to segrated audiences."

He has discussed the matter with a number of poeple involved with the situation in South Africa and "arrived at my conculsion, which was not an easy one".

Sir Richard with Oscars at Heathrow

Clutching his two Oscars, Sir Richard emphasized that he had been granted a permit to attend the black première in Soweto. "It is most certainly my intention to go."

Either he had to accept segreated audiences or not have the film shown in South Africa: "I believe that the content of the film – and it is not being censored – is vital in terms of both white and black seeing the film."

"If the price for that was segregated audiences, that was the price I was prepared to accept providing I was absolutely assured that wherever it was shown to white audiences it would be shown to black as well."

Sir Richard, who arrived back with his wife Lady Sheila, said he believed the film could help the situation in South Africa. "I do not claim Gandhi is a great political film. It is cinema, but it does have the chance to touch people and it deals with human dignity and non-violence and that is why I

Continued on back page, col 1

Judge bans 'plagiarized' TV music

A 30-second television advertisement for children's shoes, showing children running along a sandy beach to music which was "extremely similar" to the *Chariots of Fire* theme, has been banned from all Independent Television channels from midnight today. Mr Justice Vinelott, in the High Court in London yesterday, said the music for the Clark's Shoes television advertisement was "blatant plagiarism".

The judge granted Warner Brothers Music, a subsidiary of the film makers, and Spheric, a Dutch company which owns the world rights in the Chariots' theme, injunctions against Mr Graham De Wilde, the composer of the Clark's theme; KPM Music, an EMI subsidiary; and Collette Dickenson Pearce, the advertising agents who produced the commercial.

Later the Court of Appeal dismissed the defendants' appeal against the injunctions.

£240,000 in Blackpool fund

The fund set up after three police officers and a man were drowned at Blackpool in January, has now topped £240,000.

Payments have been made to police widows Mrs Bernandine Connolly and Mrs Hilary Morrison, and to the parents of Policewoman Angela Bradley. Police Constable Pat Abraham who also dived into the sea in the unsuccessful attempt to save Mr Alistair Anthony, will also receive a payment. The remainder of the fund, is to be placed in trust for the six children who were orphaned.

Tree-felling farmer freed

Hugh Batchelor, a farmer, was released from Pentonville Prison in north London last night after the Court of Appeal ruled that he was eligible for remission on his 20-day sentence for good conduct in jail.

Mr Batchelor, of Fernham Court, Bearsted, Maidstone, was jailed by a High Court judge on March 30 for felling trees on the North Downs Pilgrims Way, a preservation area, in breach of court injunctions.

£7,260 damages over cycle crash

A collision in July, 1980 between two cyclists, one of them a village postman, culminated in an award of £7,260 against the Post Office in the High Court yesterday.

Mr William Baylis-Strover, aged 58, of Cranbrook, Kent, who fractured his arm and elbow, claimed that the injury affected his ability to cycle. Lawyers agreed it was the first bicycle collision case for 12 years.

NFU in claim over tip crows

Mid-Wales has a bigger carrion crow problem than any other part of Britain, Montgomery District Council's health committee was told yesterday. But the committee is accepting no liability for lambs killed near a council refuse tip.

The National Farmers Union has filed claims against the council for cattle losses because the farmers say there was no crow menace before the council opened the tip.

Move to ban mouse racing

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals may take legal action to end a wave of mouse racing meetings in public houses and clubs.

A recent meeting at the Three Tuns Hotel at Honiton in Devon, attended by 65 enthusiasts, is being investigated by the society, which says mouse races are cruel and illegal. The organizer of the Honiton event has denied any cruelty.

Rail death

One youth died and a second was critally injured yesterday after their motorcycle was in collision with a train on the Ty Haul railway crossing about 500 yards from Porthmadog station in Gwynedd, north Wales.

VC injured

Brigadier Sir John Smyth, aged 89, one of Britain's oldest holders of the Victoria Cross and a former Conservative MP, had broken two ribs in a fall at this home in Dolphin Square, Pimlico, London.

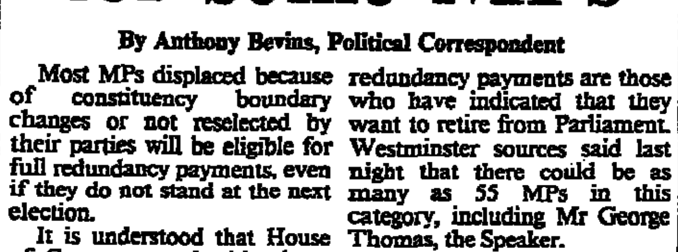
Longleat theft

Thieves yesterday broke into a state dining room at Longleat House, Wiltshire, the home of Lord Bath, and stole between 16 and 20 antique snuff boxes worth at least £10,000.

Keren sets sail

The Keren, the vessel at the centre of a dispute when she was taken over by the Royal Navy, set off from the Tyne yesterday on her 8,000-mile voyage to the Falkland Islands.

New boundaries will bring £14,000 pay-offs for some MPs



By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Most MPs displaced because of constituency boundary changes or not reselected by their parties will be eligible for full redundancy payments, even if they do not stand at the next election.

It is understood that House of Commons authorities have ruled that 506 of the present 635 parliamentary constituencies will have ceased to exist at the next election within the terms of the redundancy grants resolution passed by the Commons in December 1971.

That resolution said that if an MP failed to be elected at a general election, or did not stand for election "in circumstances where the constituency for which he was a Member of this House has ceased to exist", he or she should be eligible for grant.

Payments are based on the parliamentary salary, presenting £14,510. They range from 50 per cent of a year's salary, for those aged under 50 and with less than 10 years' service, to 100 per cent for those aged between 55 and 64, with more than 15 years' service.

Mr John Sever, the Labour MP for Birmingham, Ladywood, who has been rejected by his constituency party, and is therefore not entitled to go for selection for any of the revised constituencies in the Ladywood area, could receive a payment worth 50 per cent of salary because Ladywood ceases to exist. Mr Sever, 40 this month, has been an MP since 1977.

Similarly, Mr Raymond Mawby, the Conservative MP for Totnes, who failed to be selected for either Teignbridge or South Hams, new seats created from Totnes, would be eligible for the full severance payment because he is 61 and has been an MP since 1955.

It is understood that the only other group of MPs automatically excluded from receiving redundancy payments are those who have indicated that they want to retire from Parliament. Westminster sources said last night that there could be as many as 55 MPs in this category, including Mr George Thomas, the Speaker.

● The Labour Party is embarking on the most difficult aspect of its selection procedures to find candidates for the new parliamentary boundaries; contests open to all-comers.

With more than 223 candidates already selected under tight, new rules which restrict the bulk of contests to candidates already selected for existing constituencies, party leaders have been delighted by the smoothness and efficiency that has been displayed so far.

It is understood that the more difficult open contests, particularly, for the better labour seats, are being deliberately held back in an effort to damp down controversy.

But this week's edition of *Labour Weekly* lists the new Labour seat of Livingstone, in West Lothian, along with 16 other constituency parties inviting nominations for open selection.

Mr Robin Cock, the Labour MP for Edinburgh, Central, whose constituency is swallowed up by a much larger new Conservative seat, is a likely applicant for the Livingstone momination. Mr Wedgwood Benn, who is challenging Mr Michael Cocks, the Labour Chief Whip, for the new Bristol, South, has also been mooted as a possibility for the seat.

The other constituency Labour parties inviting nominations for open selection are:

Broxtowe, in Nottinghamshire; Thanet, South; Buckingham; Clwyd, North-west; Newport, West, in Gewnt; Mid-Kent; Rochford, in Essex; Christchurch, in Dorset; Bromsgrove, West Midlands; Witney, in Oxfordshire; Oxford, West, and Abingdon; Liverpool, Mossley Hill; Billericay, in Essex; West Lancashire; Bury St Edmunds; Mid Staffordshire.

Peter Brookes

Sweeping the board

Jail chaos fear after dismissal

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

The prison system moved nearer to chaos yesterday as the Home Office decided to dismiss an official of the Prison Officers' Association (POA).

Mr Bryan Benwell, chairman of the Dartmoor branch for 12 years, said he was stunned by the decision and hoped the association would go ahead with its threat to order 22,000 members to take protest action.

The national executive decided to suspend action pending the outcome of a personal hearing from a Prison Department official requested by Mr Benwell as a stage in the appeal system against notice of dismissal.

The report of the hearing concluded that the arguments in Mr Benwell's favour did not justify withdrawal of the notice of intention to dismiss him. The Associations national executive will decide on its next move latet this month, but almost any protest action would seriously inconvenience a system already in crisis and could bring it to the verge of chaos.

The POA says Mr Benwell is being victimized because of his union activities and his oppostion to reduced manning levels introduced at Dartmoor.

The. Prison Department said yesterday the Mr Benwell had earlier admitted failing to report to the office of Mr Leslie Wheeler the regional director for the South West. The department said its action had nothing ot do with Mr Benwell's POA activities.

But Mr Benwell said yesterday: "There is no way they can say I disobeyed an order. I am stunned that this shoild be dealt with in this way.

● Conditions in Scttish prisons and attitudes to prisoners have been called appalling by a prison governor (Our Glasgow Correspondent writes). Mr Alex Spencer the warden of Glenochil Detention Centre, near Alloa, claims in the Journal of the Association of Scottish Prison officers "no noe realizes the appalling conditions in which prisoners and staff have to live and work".

Dublin Castle likely venue for forum

From Richard Ford, Dublin

Leaders of the Irish Republic's three main political parties and Mr John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party met yesterday to discuss arrangements for setting up a forum to produce a blueprint for a united Ireland.

Although they had been expected to reveal details of the chairman, membership and venue for the forum they are to meet again next week after consultations with their colleagues.

A statement issued after the meeting said it had been constructive and considerable progress had been made. It is understood that Dublin Castle will be the venue for the forum, but there could be difficulties over finding a chairman acceptable to all parties.

The statement said that the first meeting of the forum, in which there will be no participation by northern Unionists or the Alliance Party, will be held before the end of May with its work being completed before Christmas.

Meanwhile, the coalition government in Dublin faced an embarrassing split yesterday with an angry public rebuke from the Labour leader and deputy Prime Minister to the Minister for Finance over remarks he made about subsidies and charges for health and education services.

The damaging controversy within the Fine Gael-Labour government is the second involving the two men since Dr Garret Fitzgerald was returned to office last year and highlights the strain it will face in attempting to tackle economic questions.

Mr Dick Spring, the Labour leader, is furious with his cabinet colleague, Mr Alan Dukes, for a speech in which he said housing, transport and food and agricultural subsidies would be reviewed, there would be fewer jobs in the public service, greater control of social welfare spending and people would have to pay for health and education services.

Mr Dukes told businessmen that if there was to be a reduction in the tax burden there would have to be a substantial reduction in public spending.

● In one of the largest security operations mounted on the border, hundreds of police and troops from Northern Ireland and the republic carried out widespread searches in the mountainous country of south Armagh and in county Monaghan (our Belfast Correspondent writes).

The operation, on the northern side, extended to Keady, where Mr Trevor Elliott, aged 38, a sergeant in the Territorial Army, was murdered on Wednesday.

● Shots were fired at a security van and an escorting police car in a £100,000 raid near Cobh, yesterday. The raiders were thought to have been armed with an Armalite rifle, the favourite weapon of the IRA (the Press Association reports).

Selection doubt for Fairbairn

The parliamentary career of Mr Nicholas Fairbairn, MP, the former Conservative Solicitor General of Scotland, will be decided next week when he stands for selection to the new seat of Perth and Kinross. A move to have him declared the sole nominal for the seat failed to secure a proposer and he has now been told that he must face an open contest for the nomination by the local Conservative Association.

It is understood that what is seen as Mr Fairbairn's "flamboyant" lifestyle has upset several prominent local Tories. He resigned as Solicitor General last year amid controversy over his handling of a Glasgow rape case. His recent divorce action has also been widely publicized.

Mr Fairbairn has represented the present seat of Kinross and Perthshire, West, the past 10 years. He faces strong opposition from Mr David Myles, a farmer and present Tory MP for Banff, and Mr David Amory, is a nephew of Mr Heathcoat Amory, who was Chancellor of the Exchequer between 1958 and 1960. Mr Amory stood for the Tories in Brent, South, at the last general election. Mr Amory, when asked if he had heard of any bad feeling towards Mr Fairbairn, said: "No, but it is no concern of mine, I have never met the man." He added that he did not regard himself as a favourite, but was hopeful of winning.

Mr Fairbairn declined to discuss the selection but said he expects to win. Mr Ranald Kingsley-Brown, his present constituency association secretary, said he could not comment on what the new association might decide.

● Mr Francis Maude, a barrister and son of Sir Angus Maude, a former Paymaster-General in Mrs Thatcher's government, has been chosen as Tory parliamentay candidate for the new seat of North Warwickshire.

● Mr Peter Kent, a railway worker at Crewe, has been selected as the Labour prospective parliamentary candidate for the new seat of South Derbyshire.

Science report

Scylla and Charybdis lose all credibility

By the Staff of *Nature*

In Greek mythology Scylla and Charybdis are two immortal monsters dwelling in the narrow Strait of Messina separating Sicily from Italy. Their existence was invoked by Homer in *The Odyssey* to explain the strong currents and vortices in the area. Being immortal they should of course still be there today. Now an oceanographic satellite has observed their effects, but a less dramatic explanation for the local currents has been proposed.

The Seasat satellite uses radar to give high resolution images of the Earth which are particularly useful for detecting subtle large-scale features on the surface of the seas and oceans.

In a flight over the southwest Italian coast, the satellite transmitted spectacular images of *tagli* (special types of tidal cores resembling those seen in estuaries) and single waves spreading out from the mouth of the Strait of Messina 30km into the Tyrrhenian Sea, like ripples on a pond.

This was the first time that such "internal waves" had been observed coming from the strait, although they have been recorded from near the Strait of Gibraltar.

From the satellite images and from measurements taken on an Italian research ship in the area, Dr Werner Alpers of the University of Hamburg and Dr Ettore Salusti of the University of Rome have now been able to come up with a satisfactory explanation of the strong currents in the strait, without recourse to monsters.

The strait is shallow compared to the Tyrrhenian Sea to the north and the Ionian Sea to the south, and forms a bottleneck between the two. Because the water in the Ionian Sea is slightly saltier and therefore heavier than the water to the north, a steady bottom current is set up moving northwards through the strait, together with a surface current moving in the opposite direction.

There is also a tidal current in the Mediterranean which is out of phase at opposite ends of the strait. When this tide reverses, the heavy water from the Ionian Sea rushes head-on against the slowly receding lighter water from the Tyrrhenian Sea, causing the *tagli* to form and propagate internal waves

These features were detected by the satellite's radar, as was Charybdis in the form of a vortex at the northern end of the strait near the Sicilian town of Ganzirri, where the water passes the end of a narrow peninsula.

All told, the explanation put forward by Dr Alpers and Dr Salusti is more credible than that either of Homer or of Aristotle, who suggested that Scylla and Charybdis were produced by hollows in the seafloor and an interaction of two wind-generated currents.

Source: *Journal of Geophysical Research* (Vol 88, p 1,800).

Miners aim for 4-day week deal

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Miners' leaders yesterday decided to seek a new technology agreement with the National Coal Board, aimed at reducing the industry's working week to four days and the retirement age to 55.

The National Union of Mineworkers' (NUM) executive is demanding an early answer from the National Coal Board on its claim for retirement 10 years before the state age for finishing work, longer holidays and a four day week, despite having signed a year-long agreement on wages and conditions that does not expire until October 31.

If the coal board management rejects the claim, a union ban will be imposed on the introduction of sophisticated coal-getting equipment. Initially, it could affect the Selby coal field, which is due to come "on stream" later this month.

Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the NUM, said yesterday: "All the eloquence and justice and logic in the world will not convince the Government or the coal board to concede our legitimate demands. It is only when we concentrate their minds wonderfully that they concede things to those who work in this industry.

He said if the coal board wanted to continue its rapid introduction of machinery, then it would have to negotiate terms with the union. "If the board refuses on this occasion, we shall simply refuse to accept new technology." But the coal board is likely to reject the move to reopen the industry's wages and conditions agreement in mid-term.

A ban on new technology would particularly affect the five Selby mines, upon which the coal board has pinned much hope for the future. Remote controlled machinery means that 10 million tonnes can be mined using only 4,000 miners, compared with 16,000 now required to produce the same amount of coal in the high-capacity Doncaster coal field nearby.

● The final hurdle before development of the Belvoir coal field was crossed yesterday (our Environment Correspondent writes).

The planning and recreation subcommittee of Leicestershire County Council decided, with authority from the full council, to accept a planning application from the National Coal Board to develop the first and least controversial Belvoir mine at Asfordby, near Melton Mowbray.

The subcommittee attached to its approval a long list of conditions, which await acceptance by the board.

● The National Coal Board is to close the Sorn mine in Ayrshire, with the eventual loss of 220 jobs (our Glasgow Correspondent writes).

Mr Albert Wheeler, NCB area director, said yesterday the pit, which is making a considerable loss, would close on April 29.

Cancer rate of survival is doubled

By a Staff Reporter

The number of people surviving cancer has more than doubled since the Second World War, because of advances in research, Mr Angus Ogilvy said in London last night.

He was speaking at the opening at the Stock Exchange of an exhibition depicting the history and the work of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, of which he is president. The exhibition is sponsored by the Yorkshire Building Society, and will be open to the public in the visitors' gallery over the next two months.

Mr Ogilvy said experts no longer expected a miracle cure: the war against cancer was likely to be long and costly.

Also present at last night's opening were Sir Anthony Jolliffe, Lord Mayor of London, and Mr Patrick Mitford-Slade, deputy chairman of the Stock Exchange.

Mower test inconclusive

The confrontation between rival lawnmowers from Qualcast and Flymo ended inconclusively yesterday. A demonstration at Stoke Mandeville Hospital in Buckinghamshire, appeared to prove the Qualcast machine superior, although there were allegations that the Flymo was not properly operated.

However, the Independent Television Companies Association declined to attend the event, and will be organizing a separate private test to see whether Flymo is justified in its complaints that the present Qualcast television advertisement misrepresents the performance of its Flymo competitor.

In the meantime the advertisement will continue to be shown, although the wording of the voice-over by Mr John Arlott has been slightly changed.

Policeman 'drove car at wife'

A former beauty queen told a jury yesterday that her "violent and jealous" husband drove a powerful car straight at her and her companion.

Miss Ann Melling, an air hostess, was giving evidence on the second day of the trial at Manchester Crown Court in which her husband, Rodney Kettle, a policeman, denies attempting to cause her grievous bodily harm.

The prosecution has alleged that Mr Kettle, aged 30, of St John's Avenue, Warrington, Cheshire, was inflamed by jealousy and passion, and deliberately drove at his wife and a friend, Mr Alan Dawson, after finding them in a public house.

The former "Miss Coal Queen" was saved when Mr Dawson shielded her, but he sustained a broken leg.

Miss Melling, who has changed her name by Deed Poll, said that her husband threatened to kill her. "He told me: 'I'll kill you, you bitch', and I heard the car rev up hard. I turned round and it was coming straight at us".

Miss Melling described her husband as violent and jealous.





Miss Ann Melling and her husband, Mr Rodney Kettle.

She said that he once tipped a carton of flea powder over her head, had ripped her clothing and tore pages from her diary saying that they contained the telephone numbers of other men.

Miss Melling said that on the night of the alleged incident she had gone for a drink with Mr Dawson when her husband arrived. He pleaded with her to go back to him and when she refused he hit her about the head and kicked her on the chest.

Outside the public house he got into his car and drove it at her and Mr Dawson. "He stood around me protecting me and the car collided with Alan's legs", she said.

The case continues today.

Squirrels put trees in danger

By John Young
Agricultural Correspondent

Thousands of young trees are at risk because of an expected renewed rise in the grey squirrel population.

The last such sudden increase was in the early 1970s and led to legislation permitting the use of the poison Warfarin. Fears were then expressed for the survival of oak, beech and sycamore trees; there was talk of experimentation with sterility pills, and there were even suggestions that the animals should be killed and eaten.

A mild winter and a copious autumn harvest of beech nuts, chestnuts and acorns are blamed for the latest predicted population explosion.

The Forestry Commission, which in most years has played down the grey squirrel problem so as to concentrate people's minds when it became serious, has warned woodland owners to be on the alert this spring and summer and to prepare traps and poisonous baits.

Squirrels kill trees by stripping off the bark, mainly between May and July. Scientific observations suggest that stripping is more commonly a manifestation of aggression rather than hunger. Young hardwoods between 10 and 40 years old are most at risk, but conifers are also vulnerable, the commission says.

Rebels drift back, but steel plants close

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Rebel steelworkers in South Yorkshire started to report for work yesterday after being urged by their union to stop unofficial action.

But the British Steel Corporation said it had been forced to close the melting shop and continuous casting plant at Templeborough. A full return to work in those departments had to be assured before they could reopen. Furnaces in other parts of the works have been lit and production will resume soon.

The corporation said Stocksbridge and Tinsley Park works were back in full production and the situation at Rotherham was "significantly improved". Craftsmen there, however, are still refusing to work and their union officials are being asked to get their members back to work.

It was the refusal of 900 craftsmen to accept a return-to-work call from the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation and subsequent picketing whic. caused the shutdowns.

The dispute stemmed form protests over corporation attempts to reduce the workforce.

● The corporaton announced yesterday that is to close the slabbing mill at Ravenscraig, Scotland, with the loss of 128 jobs by June. (The Press Association reports).

● Plans for a union merger between journalists and print workers as part of a strategy to create a single media were finally abandoned yesterday after the Naional Union of Journalists, (NUJ) conference refused to hand over amalgamation negotiations to its executive, (David Felton writes from Dundee).

That decision led the National Graphical Association, (NGA), with whom the NUJ Has been negitiating for almost a year, to announce that the merger plans had ended.

Cost conflict in Labour pensions

By Our Political Correspondent

Two of Mr Michael Foot's Shadow Cabinet colleagues have revealed that their leader's 12-point plan for pensioners, published on March 1, is a "phased programme" which would be introduced over the lifetime of a Parliament.

In a letter to *The Times*, Mr Peter Shore, Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr Brynmor John, Opposition spokesman on social security, explain conflicting costings for the programme by saying that there is a difference between the first full-year cost of the programme and the full-year cost which would apply when the package had been fully implemented.

The document, *Labour's Plan, The New Hope for Britain*, made no reference to pensions in its *Emergency Programme of Action*, but it was said at the time that that had been an oversight.

Mr Foot had told a delegation from the National Pensioner's Convention on March 1 that a Labour government would give the nine million pensioners an increase of £1.45 a week for single pensioners and £2.25 for married pensioners, to make good the Conservatives' ending of the earnings link, "at the first opportunity". That would cost £500m in a full year.

But Mr Shore said on March 10 that he had allocated £2,000m for increases in benefits and pensions, including a £2 a week rise in child benefit, which would cost £1,100m, and the extenson of long-term supplementary benefit rates to the one million who had been out of work for more than a year. At an extra £10.60 for a couple, that would cost £400m, leaving only £500m for pensioners.

Mr Shore also said that he would "make progress" on the restoration of the link between the pension and earnings.

Letters, page 11

Murder hunt

Police yesterday started a murder hunt after the burnt, headless and handless body of a youth was found on waste ground at the junction of Heckford Street and Cable Street in Stepney, east London.

Chess lead narrows

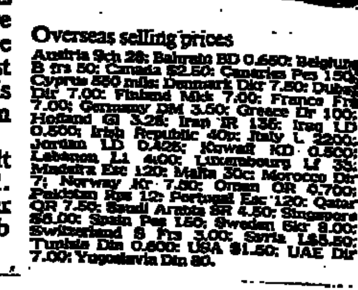
By Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent

After seven rounds in the Charlton Jubilee International Chess Tournament, J Richardson was in the lead with five points and one adjourned game, followed by Hebden 5, Plaskett 4½ and 1 adjourned. Arkell, Condie Douven, Flesch, Hartoch Laird, Prie, and Stebbings were all on 4½.

Richardson may lose his narrow lead since he looks like losing his twice adjourned game from round seven against Plaskett. Plaskett increased his advantage by winning a pawn in the Queen and pawn ending.

Adjourned games, result round six: McNab 0, Arkell 1. Round seven: Manouk ½, Flear ½, Teresa Needham 0, McNab 1.

The most important pairing in round eight, which is the penultimate round of the competition, is that between Hebden and Plaskett which started yesterday with a Sicilian defence. Whichever player wins this game should win the tournament.



Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 28; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2.50; Canaries Pes 150; Cyprus 550 mils; Denmark Dkr 7.50; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mks 7.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.25; Iran IR 135; Iraq ID 0.500; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Jordan JD 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.500; Lebanon LL 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 120; Malta 30c; Morocco Dir 7; Norway Kr 7.50; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 120; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 4.50; Singapore $6.00; Spain Pes 150; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria L£5.50; Tunisia Din 0.600; USA $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 80.

هكذا من الاهمال

Yorkshire Ripper says fellow-prisoner attacked him with glass

Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper, told a court yesterday that another prisoner at Parkhurst Prison hit him in the face with a glass jar.

Sutcliffe was giving evidence at the hearing of a charge against James Costello, aged 35, who is alleged to have attacked him. Reporting restrictions were lifted.

Sutcliffe, aged 37, who gave evidence handcuffed to a prison officer in the witness box at Newport Magistrates Court on the Isle of Wight, said: "Suddenly I was subject to a particularly nasty, totally unexpected and unprovoked attack."

Smartly dressed in a grey suit and open-necked blue shirt, Sutcliffe, who was bearded, wore a golden cross on a chain around his neck.

Costello sat in the dock flanked by two prison officers. He is accused of wounding Sutcliffe in Parkhurst on January 10 with intent to do him grievous bodily harm.

Mr Graham Grant-Whyte, for the Director of Public Prosecutions, told the court Sutcliffe suffered a severe injury in the attack, and needed surgery.

He had a deep laceration five inches long across his face, a two and a half inch deep laceration at the outer upper part of his left eye and a laceration to his upper left eyelid. He lost some blood and was in a state of mild shock. He underwent an operation to repair superficial muscle damage.

Sutcliffe told the magistrates he was a prisoner in the hospital wing at Parkhurst, where he went in January this year. Shortly before 6 pm on January 10, staff unlocked his cell so he could get some water.

He filled a bowl and, as he turned the tap off, was aware of the presence of another person.

"I did not pay particular attention to who it was. I took about two strides and suddenly I was subject to a particularly nasty, totally unexpected and unprovoked attack. The first thing I was aware of was a glinting glass container just before it smashed into my face."

Pointing to the left side of his face, Sutcliffe added: "It hit me there".

He identified Costello, sitting in the dock, as the person who attacked him. He said he did not know Costello.



Sutcliffe arriving at court yesterday.

Sutcliffe, who arrived amid tight security two and a half hours before the hearing, was due to start, was driven away in a prison van almost immediately after giving evidence. A crowd of about a hundred waited outside the court and there was some booing.

Costello, whose address was given on the court records as c/o Broadmoor Hospital, was committed for trial at Newport Crown Court. The magistrates overruled a defence submission that the prosecution case was not sufficient to require the case to go for trial.

Cross-examined by Mr Peter Ader, for the defence, Sutcliffe said he had been hearing voices, giving him advice when he was depressed.

He denied having difficulties in his relationships with other prisoners. "Aren't you a rather unpopular person?" Mr Ader asked. "Yes, but it does not affect me because it is an ignorant opinion they hold. Anyway, they just do not understand," Sutcliffe said.

Asked if he was aware that his story would be worth money if he told it to the press, Sutcliffe replied: "That is the trouble with society today. People are motivated by greed and there are no moral values at all."

Earlier Mr Grant-Whyte, describing the alleged attack, said two blows had been struck and hospital officers had witnessed part of the incident. Asked what had happened, Mr Costello said Sutcliffe had attacked him.

The go-anywhere phone

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

Gone are the days of having to be in earshot of the telephone when waiting for a call or being frustrated by hearing it ring just before stepping into the bath. Britain now has its first officially approved cordless phone, allowing the user to make and receive calls 600ft from the telephone's base.

The unit has a base (shown left), which is connected to the normal telephone socket and mains electricity, and a cordless handset powered by a small battery, linked with the base by radio frequency. When replaced on the base the handset battery is recharged automatically from the mains supply.

The first design was launched yesterday by Fidelity which will market its own brand and has supplied a design to British Telecom, also launched yesterday. Among the first to try it were Suzanne Danielle, the actress, and a policeman on duty in London's Embankment gardens (above).

Four other British suppliers have been given approval to sell cordless telephones. They are Plessey, which is expected to manufacture two models, Conversation Pieces, Answercall and Geemarc.

The sets, which cost about £170, are expected to threaten the telephone extension market.

Top photograph: John Manning

Hammer used to wreck home

Rodney Towler, aged 49, was committed to prison for a month at Southend County Court yesterday for making his estranged wife homeless, which Judge Gordon Rice ruled was in breach of an earlier order not to molest her.

The judge had also previously ordered Towler, an unemployed heating engineer with three children, to leave the matrimonial home in Hadleigh Park Avenue, Thundersley, Essex, by April 2.

In an affidavit Mrs Margaret Towler said she returned home to find the roof partly ripped off, windows smashed and a water cylinder punctured, causing flooding. Ceilings were bulging or collapsed, there were holes in the walls and the lavatory and bathroom basin were smashed. The repairs totalled £4,500. The husband admitted causing the damage with a hammer.

Doctor for trial on drug charges

Pierre Jonescu, aged 82, a Romanian-born retired Harley Street doctor facing 20 charges of forging prescriptions for heroin substitute drugs, was remanded on bail by Marlborough Street magistrates yesterday for trial at the Central Criminal Court.

Since he first appeared in court on November 17 Dr Jonescu, of Hallam Street, Marylebone, central London, has been remanded in custody in his absence each week while being treated for chronic bronchitis.

Council buys ponies at risk

Somerset County Council has paid £1,300 from the rates to help to save the world's oldest breed of horse from extinction.

Three mares, a filly and a colt have been bought to protect the Exmoor breed, which has only 150 mares surviving in their natural environment and has been declared an endangered species. The council bought six mares and a stallion two years ago, and five mares are now in foal.

Manx death penalty vote

A report recommending the retention of the death penalty for murder in the Isle of Man will go before Manx MPs in Tynwald on Tuesday and is almost certain to be accepted.

But death sentences passed by Manx courts will continue to be commuted to life imprisonment by the Home Secretary "for the foreseeable future".

U-boat visit

Two West German submarines and their mother ship arrive on a three-day visit to Orkney today. They form part of the Third Federal German Submarine Squadron and will have a total complement of 126.

Footballer dies

Gerald Hitchins, aged 48, a former England international and Aston Villa player, collapsed and died during a village football match in Hope, North Wales, on Wednesday evening. He lived in Holywell, Clwyd.

£500m dock leisure centre plan

By Baron Phillips, Property Correspondent

A multi-million pound leisure and convention centre is being planned for a 1,200-acre docks site in Bristol which if allowed will be the largest development of its kind in Britain.

Planning permission for the development, which is expected to cost at least £500m, is being sought by the international Heron Corporation headed by Mr Gerald Ronson. It is expected that an outline of the scheme will be considered by Woodspring District Council early next week.

The site is about three miles outside Bristol city centre between the Royal Portbury Dock and the Portishead Dock. The vacant land is owned by Bristol City Corporation and the Central Electricity Generating Board.

The scheme would provide thousands of jobs in the area.

At the heart of the development is a large convention centre similar to ones in the United States where convention business is thought to be eleventh largest industry in the country. Apart from the conference and convention facilities, there will be extensive hotel accommodation, a leisure park, ancillary offices and shops, housing and some light industrial development.

A Heron spokesman said last night that the location was right for such a scheme. The company was confident of being granted outline planning consent and it would then spend several million pounds on a research and feasibility study.

In the 1960s Heron developed a large housing and shopping centre at Yate, a Bristol suburb, but since then it has grown into one of the largest private multinational companies in Britain. Its interests cover property development and investment, petrol stations, car sales, house building, electronics and insurance, and are spread throughout Europe and North America.

It is thought the scheme would provide the largest and most extensive convention and leisure facilities in Europe.

● Part of Carnaby Street, once the heart of "swinging" London in the 1960s, has been sold for £10.5m to a property company.

The sale was of about 180,000 sq ft of shops and offices on the west side of the street. Peachey Properties, the new owners, now control about three quarters of the street.

Property column Page 24

New moves to curb animal experiments

By John Young

Proposals for legislation to control experiments on animals were published yesterday by a joint working party of the British Veterinary Association, the Committee for the Reform of Animal Experimentation and the Fund for the Replacement of Animals in Medical Experiments.

Their report suggests that experiments should be confined to the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diseases in humans, animals or plants, including the safety testing of medicines and the quality control of foods; the detection of physiological conditions, including pregnancy diagnosis; prolongation of life; protection of the natural environment; animal breeding; the advancement of biological knowledge; and certain limited educational and training purposes.

The premises where experiments are carried out and those conducting them should be licensed by the Home Office, it says. Applications for licences should be countersigned by two sponsors holding senior appointments in biological sciences.

With the exception of farm animals, those used in experiments should be bred for the purpose, the report suggests. The use of cats or dogs taken from the streets should not be permitted.

Mice, rats, guinea pigs, rabbits, dogs, cats and hamsters should be acquired only from registered establishments. Other animals, particularly primates, should be added to that list as soon as there is a reasonable prospect of a sufficient supply.

"In reaching a decision to use wild animals for experimental purposes, the welfare of the animals, the survival of the species and the quality of the experimental material should be taken into account," it says. "Financial grounds alone should not be a sufficient reason for an exception to be made."

The report notes that the difficulty of defining pain, suffering or distress has not been resolved satisfactorily. But it is possible to recognize various states of suffering, both in intensity and duration.

For example, a brief painful stimulus, such as the insertion of a needle through the skin, is probably inconsequential. On the other hand, the stress imposed in the restraint and immobilization of the animal may be severe.

Mr Neal King, president of the British Veterinary Association, said yesterday that the report represented an important meeting of minds between responsible welfare organizations and was a significant advance in establishing a cornerstone for legislation.

Dr Tom Gibson, the association's vice-president, said it was not at this stage possible to exclude cosmetics from being tested on animals.

Vets' dilemma, page 10



Drugs on trial

Driver 'woke' after car crash

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A company sales executive who went to bed after taking sleeping tablets and pain killers, woke up in a police station and heard how he had driven through red traffic lights and then crashed his car, West London magistrates at Acton were told yesterday.

Raymond Johnston, aged 39, of Haygarth Mews, Wimbledon, had no recollection of the crash after he had taken two Halcion sleeping tablets. He had also taken two dihydrocodeine tablets (DF-118), a strong pain killer which, coupled with a similar dose a few hours earlier, could have been responsible for his robot-like behaviour, the court was told.

Mr Johnston was cleared of driving while unfit due to either drink or drugs after a 28-hour hearing in which the expert witness for the defence was Dr Cornelius van der Kroef, a Dutch psychiatrist.

Dr van der Kroef, whose campaign against Halcion led to its ban in Holland, said Mr Johnston's "automatism" resembled that which he had seen in many of the 1,000 cases he had analysed. He thought it "highly probable" that the behaviour had been caused by Halcion.

But Professor Malcolm Lader, Professor at London University's Institute of Psychiatry, said that Halcion in the recommended dose in Britain, which is lower than it was in Holland, "has not been associated with a higher incidence of adverse reaction than any other member of its class".

He said the levels of the pain killer DF-118 in Mr Johnston's blood were "extremely high" and that there had been deaths reported at that level. The "automaton" behaviour could have been caused by that drug alone.

Mr Johnston said that on August 12 last year, he had gone to hospital for treatment for an eye injury, and then to work. By 11.30am he decided to return home to try to sleep.

He had taken two 30mg DF-118 tablets at 7.15am and, although the recommended dose was a maximum of two every six to eight hours, he took two more. He also took the two 0.25mg Halcion tablets.

After the accident, Mr Johnston was said to have been unsteady, uncoordinated and dazed, with slurred speech when questioned at Acton police station.

Dr Norman MacLeod, medical director of Upjohn Ltd, Halcion's manufacturers, said after the case that Mr Johnston had been lucky not to have killed himself. Evidence in the case reaffirmed Halcion as a widely used and perfectly safe drug.

BBC attack on jamming by Russia

By Kenneth Gosling

Mr Douglas Muggeridge, the managing director of BBC External Broadcasting, yesterday launched a stinging attack on what he called "a politically-motivated and carefully orchestrated campaign" against international broadcasting, led by the Soviet Union and the Eastern block.

Speaking to the Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers' Association in London, he predicted the imminent breakdown of law and order on the airwaves unless there was "a new spirit of understanding". He said: "We are already witnessing a ganging-up of some nations to prevent the use of satellite technology in international bradcasting.

"The widespread use of jamming by the Soviet Union and other countries in many parts of the world is rapidly making a nonsense of all the international conventions for the orderly use of the airwaves."

Russia jammed the BBC "in order to try and prevent us on their own admission from being widely heard and believed in Russia". It was the BBC's credibility which was the ultimate affront to the men of the Kremlin.

Mr Muggeridge also reiterated his concern at last December's vote in the United Nations which had implied that nations should have the right to block satellite television broadcasts from abroad.

GPs paid up to £250,000 in error

Sheffield City Council's health department has been asked for advice on how to recover the overpayment of National Health Service funds, due to an administrative error, to family doctors in the city. The overpayments, which may total about £250,000, have been made over a number of years by the Sheffield Family Practitioner Committee.

Some doctors have been paid twice for contraceptive services supplied to NHS patients in the city. Some practices are said to have been overpaid by up to £3,000 and there is a strong likelihood they will have to repay the money.

Mr Philip Nuttall, the committee's administrator, said that the amount to be recovered from doctors in the city would "depend on the departmental view on how we handle it".

General practitioners supply contraceptive services on an item-for-service basis. After making out a prescription, they send a claim form to the family practitioner committee detailing the type of service supplied and the committee reimburses the money. A Sheffield doctor claimed yesterday that it was possible that busy doctors in large practices could overlook the extra payments.

Wife 'used as kennel maid' gains divorce

A wife whose husband was said to have used her as "a kennel maid" for their dogs and apart from that ignored her was granted a divorce yesterday.

The behaviour of Mr William Ivens, aged 47, was more than his wife, Joy, aged 55, could be expected to tolerate any longer, Judge Patricia Coles ruled in the London Divorce Court.

The judge said that after 21 years of marriage the "only common denominator" left between Mr and Mrs Ivens was their interest in their eight Saluki dogs.

Mr Ivens, of Woodlands Lane, Windlesham, Surrey, a principal with a London firm of estate agents, had not communicated with his wife for years, had not had sexual relations with her for seven years and embarrassed her by ignoring her at social occasions, the judge said. He did not even tell her when he bought a racehorse.

"It is obvious Mr Ivens is running his own life completely and is simply using Mrs Ivens as a kennel maid for the dogs."

Assault risk in wards 'greater than on beat'

Mr James Sharp, a former policeman who works as a nurse, said yesterday that hospitals were such violent places he felt at greater risk of being assaulted there than when he was on the beat.

Mr Sharp, a night nursing officer at Whittington Hospital, Highgate, north London, said staff faced a growing number of attacks from patients, visitors and intruders.

He said staff were often afraid to leave the safety of wards at night. He called for more security staff to make hospitals safer. "The sad truth today is that a nurse's uniform is no longer protection against attack. It may well make her a target," he added.

Mr Sharp told reporters attending the Royal College of Nursing annual meeting in Bournemouth that violence was widespread.

A study at one hospital in London showed that assaults and violent threats against staff had increased to 47 in a five-month period last year compared with only 21 during the same period in 1981.

He said: "Can one imagine the outcry if any chief constable said the increase in violent crime in his area had increased by over 100 per cent? They would have been screaming in Parliament."

Miss Pauline Bryant a night sister from Watford General Hospital, said she had been hit by patients who become violent or aggressive for various reasons, because of their injuries, confused states, or drink withdrawal.

"All of a sudden, they spring up in the middle of the night. They are suddenly irrational. These people have no bounds of strength, even old folk. When they get aggressive they are so strong."

She said nurses had to be on their guard to ensure violent patients did not come between them and the ward telephone or their personal radio so that they could not summon help.

Mr Trevor Clay the college's general secretary, said the issue of violence would be discussed by the ruling council next week.

London cable TV 'may be uneconomic'

By Our Electronics Correspondent

Glasgow could prove to be an economically attractive location for cable television operators in spite of its concentration of lower income groups while London, once thought to be the most potentially lucrative area for cable, may prove uneconomic.

The findings are contained in *Can cabling Britain be Profitable*, a report published yesterday and prepared by National Economic Research Associates International, a firm of consulting economists. The results are based on a study of four sample cable franchise areas: London, Glasgow, Leicester and Nottingham. The London franchise consisted of Hammersmith, Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea and the franchise period in all the samples was assumed to be 12 years.

The report concludes: "Households with children are much more likely to subscribe to cable; in this respect London looks less attractive for cabling than the other franchise areas."



Police support for more aid to crime victims

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Strong police backing for a big expansion of aid to victims of crime is pledged by Sir Kenneth Newman, Metropolitan Police Commissioner, as part of his new social contracts between police and public.

The aid will be given by volunteers, with police and Government support, as part of the fast-growing National Association of Victims Support Schemes. The volunteers will enlist help for victims who need it.

Sir Kenneth announces his plan in the annual report of the association, which tells how three volunteers spent four days cleaning and repairing an Asian grocer's shop after a petrol bomb attack.

In Islington, volunteers provided urgently needed aid for a blind man who was assaulted and robbed in the street. Manufacturers of his stolen pocket tape-recorder, used for notes and reminders, gave him another free when volunteers told them.

The volunteers also alerted the Metropolitan Society for the Blind to give him an immediate grant during his recovery from injury and help him claim £565 from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board.

When youths set fire to the front door of the home of a Bromley woman aged 88, severely shocking her, volunteers arranged accommodation elsewhere until she recovered. Then, to keep her spirits up, arrangements were made for her to attend a day centre. The local beat policeman also kept special watch on her flat.

"There must be a movement away from the concept of victim support being a welfare service for a minority of victims," Sir Kenneth writes.

Sir Kenneth's plan is part of a big growth nationally in aid to victims. Miss Helen Reeves, the association's national officer, notes in the report a 50 per cent increase in people offered help in 1982, to a new total of 41,375. By the end of the year, 2,912 people were working voluntarily in local schemes. Between September 1979 and September 1982, the number of schemes increased from 34 to 129.

Six more schemes are planned in London, where 16 are already in action. Sir Kenneth's backing means other schemes are now likely.

He says: "It is vitally important to harness the community in responding to the needs of victims, as well as attempting to reduce the number of victims through crime prevention."

The association claims in its report to have a more extensive voluntary service for victims of crime than any other country in the world.

PARLIAMENT April 14 1983

Yards unwilling to take risk over Cunard refit

SHIP REPAIRING

British ship repair yards must be prepared to fulfil orders on time, **Mrs Margaret Thatcher**, the Prime Minister, said in reply to Labour criticism at question time in the Commons of the decision to send the Cunard Countess to Malta for a £2m refit.

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, said that the Government should have threatened to withhold the 40 per cent of the cost which was coming from the taxpayer, unless the work was given to a British yard.

Mrs Thatcher said that it was disappointing that a British yard could not be found to do the work in time for the ship to be back in the Caribbean on July 9. Mr Foot said her reply would add to the sense of outrage in the country about the matter.

The matter was originally raised by **Mr Robert Mitchell** (Southampton, Itchen, SDP) who asked the Prime Minister: Will she send for the chairmen of Cunard and of British Shipbuilders and explain that 40 per cent of the cost of the refit of Cunard Countess is coming from the taxpayer, that thousands of shipyard workers are on the dole, and will she do everything possible to make sure they come to an agreement that the refit should take place in a British yard?

Mrs Thatcher: Efforts were made to find a British yard to carry out this work in time for the ship to return to her commitments on July 9.

It was not possible to find a British yard which could do the work in that time. It is very disappointing that such a yard could not be found.

It was vital that the ship should be back on duty by July 9. It is *disappointing that yards which did* so well during the Falklands war were not able, in peacetime, to match that.

Mr Foot: Her answer will only add to the sense of outrage througout the country.

Does she really mean that the Government will stand back and let that work go ahead in Maltese yards? If she is so unwilling or unable to do anything about it, will she at least cease the hypocrisy of exhorting other people to buy British?

Mrs Thatcher: The weakness of Mr Foot's case is that British yards were not able to undertake to carry out the repairs in time and were unwilling to take the risk that if they were not successful in carrying it out in time, they would have incurred a penalty.

A penalty would be incurred if she did not get back to undertake her normal duties in time.

Mr Foot: Has she inquired into the conditions applied and stiff penalty clause imposed? *Does she think it* right it should be imposed? Does that have Government support?

Since so much taxpayers' money was involved, if the Government had said the money would have been withheld if the work was not done in British yards, the work could have been done here.

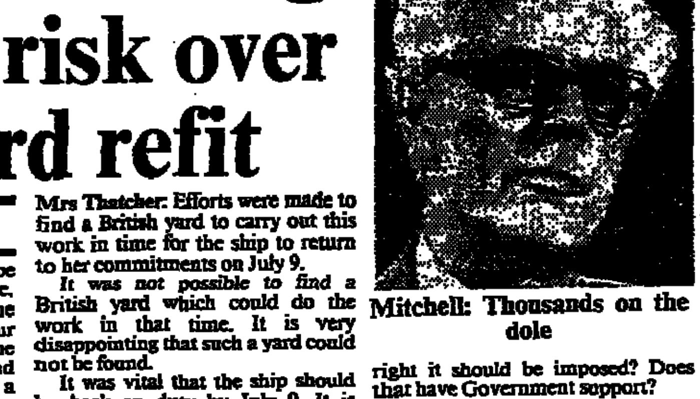
Mrs Thatcher: The ship has to be back to the Caribbean on July 9. If it is not, the cruises can not continue and enormous penalties would be incurred.

It does not seem to me unreasonable to say that we must have the ship back in the condition in which she was chartered, by a certain date.

The work was first offered to British yards, but no British yard could meet that date.

I saw on television last night that the chairman of British Shipbuilders said *it* would not risk the penalty, but other yards were apparently able to meet the deadline.

I understand why it is disappointing that no British yards could do so, but the attitude we must take is that we must be prepared to do that work on time.



Mitchell: Thousands on the dole

Thatcher declines to end election speculation

PM'S QUESTIONS

The only clue that Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, would give in the Commons about the date of the next general election was that it would be some time in the next 15 months.

But when the election comes (she declared) we shall fight it on the Tory record and on Tory policies and I think we shall win.

She was replying to **Mr Robert Parry** (Liverpool, Scotland Exchange, Lab) who called on the Prime Minister to end speculation by announcing that she would seek a fresh mandate from the electorate this summer.

When she fights the election (he went on), will she fight it not on jingoism and chauvinism but on the Tory Government's mass level of unemployment?

Mr Parry also asked her to condemn the silly attempt to recruit unemployed youth into the armed forces. The Prime Minister and the Government (he went on) have been wallowing in the blood of the people killed or wounded in the Falklands and it should be stopped *as it is obscene.* (Conservative protests)

Mrs Thatcher: With regard to some young people under training going into the armed forces, I believe there will be a great demand for the limited number of places that are available.

It will, of course, be totally voluntary and many young people will wish to take advantage of the opportunity and to play a part in defending their country.

Mr Michael Neubert (Havering, Romford, C): When the Labour Party was in power, tax thresholds fell by 5 per cent for a married man and 20 per cent for a single person, whereas under this Government tax thresholds have risen by more than prices.

On the anniversary of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, the Opposition would do better to remember Lincoln's maxim: do not make the rich poorer, make the poor richer.

Mrs Thatcher: *I agree with the* quotation from Abraham Lincoln. I also agree that under the last Labour Government, tax thresholds fell, whereas under this Conservative Government, tax thresholds have increased by 5 per cent more than inflation, so there has been a real improvement.

In addition, in our first four years of Government, net take-home pay has gone up by 8 per cent, whereas in the first four years of Labour it went down by 4 per cent.

Mr Harry Greenway (Ealing, North, C): Has she heard the varied estimates of the cost of implementation of the Labour Party proposals recently published as between £15,000m and £40,000m, 12p on the basic rate of income tax and five million unemployed? (Labour laughter).

The Opposition might well get excited, they have got something to answer for. What does she think the cost of these ridiculous and stupid proposals might be?

Mrs Thatcher: We have done such calculations as we can and we understand the one-off cost of these plans would be about £20,000m and the annual cost would be between £30,000m and £40,000m. The whole thing will be totally disastrous, but they will never get the chance to implement it.

Forces to train young volunteers

UNEMPLOYMENT

The armed forces are to offer voluntary training places for the young unemployed, **Mr Michael Heseltine**, Secretary of State for Defence, announced in a statement in the Commons. He denied in reply to Labour questioners that the scheme would be the forerunner of compulsory conscription.

Mr Heseltine said: I have been considering the role of the armed forces in the Government's programme to provide training and work experience for unemployed school leavers. The high quality of the training provided by our Armed Forces has convinced me that they should play a part.

I therefore propose to make available some 5,200 places for the young unemployed volunteering for such opportunities which will be on the same basis as the youth training scheme. The precise number of places available in the first year will depend on the number of applications and the capacity of the Services training organization.

The young people will volunteer to join one of the Services on a 12 months engagement, part of which will be spent in formal training and the remainder in work experience. All volunteers will receive the same basic training as regular Servicemen and women, and some will go on to learn skills and trades.

All applicants for the scheme will be volunteers, will have to satisfy existing entry standards and will be able to leave at any time on 14 days' notice.

They will be Servicemen and Servicewomen and in all but a few *respects will qualify* for the same benefits as single regulars and under the same disciplines. They will receive, as will youngsters joining civilian employers in the scheme, an allowance of £25 per week. I have decided that a deduction from this *will* be made for food and accommodation of £10 per week.

The Ministry of Defence will receive the same subvention as civil employers. As the YTS volunteers will pay less than the normal Service food and accommodation charge, *my* department will contribute about £1m to subsidize this lower deduction.

I hope that the scheme may be in operation before September this year.

I am sure the House will applaud the willingness of the armed services to devote some of their training skills for the benefit of young people.

Mr Denzil Davies, an Opposition spokesman on defence and disarmament (Llanelli, Lab): This statement represents an abysmal and depressing epitaph to four years of Tory government. Having put thousands of young people into the dole queues and onto the street corners, all the Government can now think of is to put military uniforms on some of them for 12 months.

The scheme offers no hope of real training and it does not provide young people either with the dignity of the professional soldier or the dignity of a civilian job.

After 12 months under the economic policies of this Government they will again be put in the dole queues.

Has the Manpower Services Commission been consulted on this, and if so what was their reaction? Is it not the case that two years ago they turned down a not dissimilar scheme?

Where will the money come from for this scheme, from the existing budget of the MSC or will it be given extra resources to do it?

This scheme is an insult both to the professional armed forces and to the young people themselves.

What the youth of Britain need is not despairing schemes of this kind by lame duck governments, but a change of government that would provide for real training and a genuine hope for the future.

Mr Heseltine: The scheme is as close as is possible to devise to the Youth Training Scheme but it is administered through the Ministry of Defence.

I cannot accept the general *attitude of* the Opposition. My own sincerely held views are that the Labour party opposite is obsessed with running down our armed services. They cannot understand the respect and admiration in which they are held which means that a large number of people will volunteer.

Mr Mark Carlisle (Runcorn, C): Rather than the carping criticism from the Opposition, this statement will be widely welcomed both as a means of widening the training opportunities available to young people leaving school this year and as a constructive step to deal with the problem of the shortage of job opportunities for young people.

Mr Heseltine: I am sure this will be seen as a further manifestation of *the Government's determination to* help young people.

Mrs Shirley Williams (Crosby, SDP): Will the trainees be subject to military law and will they at the end of their period have any special status. Some of us are concerned about the possibility of a not properly constituted youth force.

Mr Heseltine: The volunteers, while they are with the Services, will be subject to military law in every respect and that is the only way in which the scheme would be workable, but in no way should this be seen as a new initiative in the setting up of any new force.

Mr Nigel Spearing (Newham, South, Lab): This is not really the Services' contribution to youth training but the introduction of a new category of temporary service volunteer. Will it apply equally to ladies and gentlemen with roughly half, 2,500, ladies joining the forces? Who will choose the recruits and on what basis will such selection be made?

Mr Heseltine: The process of recruiting the volunteers will be the same as that which applies now for recruitment to the armed services and the same entry basis will be to be applied because they will be training alongside the regular recruits.

There will be *more opportunities* for boys than girls because we cannot see opportunities in this particular context for more than a limited number of girls in the Navy and the RAF, but I would not seek to try to give an additional definition to this scheme.

Sir Philip Goodhart (Bromley, Beckenham, C): As the forces have such a superb record in training young men and women can I congratulate him on managing to bypass the MSC whose short-sighted opposition to earlier projects of this sort managed to scupper them. Can he say whether those who complete this training satisfactorily will have priority in getting places in the armed forces.



Lestor: We hoped for a better alternative

Mr Heseltine: I totally endorse his description of the superb record of training of the armed services. Obviously there will be opportunities for continuation for those who seek it but it cannot be an automatic right.

It will depend on the number of places available and the number of regulars who stay on or who are recruited in the overall defence budget.

Mr David Young (Bolton, East, Lab): The criticisms from this side are not against the armed services but against the Government which is at present in control of them which has stumbled into one unnecessary war in the last year. *Can he assure us that this is not the* first step to a form of conscription moving from the voluntary to the compulsory?

Mr Heseltine: I can assure him it is in no way to be seen as a re-introduction of an earlier form of conscription. When e had conscription in this country 200,000 people were conscripted every year and it is quite irresponsible to try to suggest that 5,200 volunteers can in any way be compared with that situation.

Mr James Spicer (Dorset, West, C): If the services find they are capable of taking more young people will he consider this as only a trial run which can be extended?

Mr Heseltine: They wish to operate on the basis of a profesional armed service and would not regard it as in the country's best interests to blur *that very clear commitment.*

Miss Joan Lester (Eton and Slough, Lab): Some of us who represent people from the working class would have hoped for a better alternative for our children, and I include my own, than the dole queue or the armed forces.

Is he not saying that there are no long-term employment prospects for thousands of young people in this country and therefore is offering them the armed services?

Mr Heseltine: The idea that the Opposition represents the working class is out of date.

Mr Frank Allaun (Salford East, Lab): Is it seriously intended to give training in arms to 16-year-olds? Young people need training for living, not training in killing. Surely this Government, in view of the unprecedented unemployment, has no difficulty in obtaining recruits for the armed forces?

Mr Heseltine: We are going to give training to 16-year-olds in military experience very much in line with the training for 16-year-olds that the Labour Party happily voted for in their peiods in government.

Mr Alexander Lyon (York, Lab): How can this scheme be other than compulsory conscription? (Conservative shouts of "No"). The Government is creating a situation in which half the school leavers this year will not be able to get jobs and many of those who have left in the last two years have still not got jobs.

This is a scheme for taking people off the unemployment *rolls* and enabling them to become part of the armed forces of this country and in so doing it is a disgrace.

Mr Heseltine: We have offered to 16-year-olds a guarantee of work experience at that age. Therefore there is no way in which they are going to be told there is only an oppprtunity in the armed services. It will be their choice if, rather than taking a civilian opportunity, they opt for an armed services opportunity. A very large numver of them would like to do just that.

Mr Heseltine later said there would be a range of opportunities available, including some in high technology activities.

Mr Kevin McNamara, an Opposition spokesman on défence and disarmament (Kingston upon Hull, Central, Lab): The whole House has been disturbed by this statement. (Conservative cries of "No")

It is easy to see the way the Government like to salve their consciences about the millions unemployed. It thinks it can fool the people by having 5,200 people in the armed forces.

Mr Heseltine: The whole House is not disturbed. Tories and one or two other MPs have welcomed it. It is true the Labour Party is disturbed but the Labour Party is permanently disturbed. (Laughter.)

Prior sees snags in Irish forum

ULSTER

Any forum, such as that suggested by Dr Garreth FitzGerald in Dublin, or any other initiative which in any way put at risk the view of the majority of people in Northern Ireland who wished to *remain part of the United Kingdom*, was bound to start at a disadvantage, **Mr James Prior**, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said during Commons questions. Any constructive course would be welcomed, he added, as would a *decision by the SDLP to attend the* Assembly in Northern Ireland.

Asked if he had any plans to propose new initiatives for cross border cooperation to meet ministers of the Republic of Ireland, **Mr Prior** explained that there was a *high degree, of cooperation with the* Irish Republic on practical matters of mutual concern, and officials in Northern Ireland and in the Republic were in regular contact on a range of such matters as a normal aspect of their functions.

I have not met any ministers from the Republic since my discussion with the Irish Minister for Foreign Affairs in London on February 1 (he said) and I have at present no plans to meet the Minister for Foreign Affairs or the *Taoiseach of the Republic.*

Mr Dennis Canavan (West Stirlingshire, Lab): Would he urge the so-called unionists in the House to support Dr Garreth FitzGerald's initiative for an all-Ireland forum to discuss possible constitutional changes leading to the peaceful unification of Ireland, a unity to which every true unionist should aspire?

Mr Prior: That is a matter for the Unionist Party.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab): Would he not consider that this forum, initiated today in the Republic, is a step forward and that we should give some help to it?

Would he regret with me that Unionists are opting out totally and just want to have their own way which will result in the stalemate and the killing going on for ever, unless we talk to one another about this?

Mr Prior: We should all talk to one another about this. I believe that any forum or initiative of this nature which in any way puts at risk the view of the majority of people in Northern Ireland who wish to remain part of the United Kingdom, is bound in itself to start with a major disadvantage.

Any constructive course will be welcomed, just as would also be welcomed the SDLP playing a part in the Assembly of Northern Ireland.

Mr David Winnick (Walsall North, Lab): Would he not agree that on the basis of the present policies, including the Assembly, there is no way at all in which we can see any end to the bloodshed which has engulfed the Province for the last ten years?

Would it not be a welcome step forward that the forum starting in *Dublin and the British Government* found ways and means of agreement whereby there is far less hard-line sectarian attitude amongst Unionists in Northern Ireland and in the Republic by constitutional amendment; which would make this more attractive to the people in Northern Ireland?

Mr Prior: There is a great deal that could be done to remove the suspicions which there have been in the past, but if he and the House believe that there is any simple solution to the age old problem, it simply is not true.

The Rev Ian Paisley (North Antrim, Dem U): Is he aware that Mr Trevor Elliott who was murdered brutally was an officer in my party? This and many other killings in the south and border areas of Northern Ireland means that the Government should press for proper cross-border cooperation in bringing those guilty of these atrocities to trial by extradition into Northern Ireland?

Biggs-Davison: Based on inviolability of union

Mr Prior: I should like to express my sympathy and that of the House with the relatives of Mr Elliott, who will be suffering as a result of this dastardly attack.

I believe that the greatest degree of cross-border cooperation on security matters is essential and I welcome the recent steps which might make it more possible for extradition to take place as I believe that would do a lot to remove some of the suspicions which exist in Northern Ireland today.

Sir John Biggs-Davison (Epping Forest, C): Must not this cooperation be based on the inviolability of the union which is the people's will and conducted by the two sovereign governments *in these* islands? Instead of Dr Garret Fitzgerald's all Ireland forum, what about a British Isles forum?

Mr Prior: I agree that discussions between the Governments of the United Kingdom and the Government of the Republic are a much better way forward, but if some questions can be asked by the forum or within the forum on the real attitude of the Republican Government towards unity, we might be able to make some more progress.

Mr Gerard Fitt (Belfast, West, Soc): A Catholic forum in Dublin and a Protestant Assembly in Stormont is a recipe for further alienation and polarization between the communities.

Would he use his endeavours to get elected representatives of whatever persuasion in Northern *Ireland* to attend *its* forum. The SDLP should attend the place to which they were elected. That is one way of getting people to talk to each other.

Mr Prior: Yes, if both would agree to attend the other there would be no need for the forum in the first place.

Next week's business

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Debate on the Brandt report *The Common Crisis.*

Tuesday: Debates on Opposition *motions on* East Anglia and on shipbuilding and shiprepair industries.

Wednesday: Social Security and Housing Benefits Bill, remaining stages.

Thursday: Agricultural Holdings *(Amendment) (Scotland)* Bill, remaining stages.

Friday: Private members' Bills: Diseases of Fish Bill, report. Young Persons' Rights Bill, second reading.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Monday: Telecommunications Bill, second reading.

Tuesday: Energy Bill, committee. Water Bill, report. Debate on reform of the building societies.

Wednesday: Debate on energy conservation.

Thursday: *Water Bill and British* Shipbuilders Bill third readings. Prohibition of Female Circumcision Bill, second reading.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debate on private member's motion on UK dependencies.

Shipbuilding move fails

HOUSE OF LORDS

What has happened so far in a number of instances of the sale of public sector assets had been a public scandal, **Lord Bruce of Donington**, speaking for the Opposition, said on the report stage of the British Shipbuilders Bill which paves the way for the "privatization" of British Shipbuilders.

He went on to give the warning: When the next Labour Government gets into office we shall exhume some of these transactions that have taken place. What happens now and what has happened in the past may well form a useful guide as to what may happen on repossession.

Lord Bruce moved an amendment which, he said, would enable a reasonably accurate value price to be obtained when the Secretary of State for Industry, using his powers under the Bill, directed British Shipbuilders to dispose of any assets. He proposed arrangements under which in certain circumstances determination of price should be referred to an independent arbitrator appointed by the President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants.

He said the Bill gave the Secretary of State powers virtually to dismantle British Shipbuilders at any point of its own choosing.

Lord Trefgarne, for the Government, said this complex amendment would have far-reaching effects upon the Secretary of State's ability to exercise his powers of direction. It was the Government's intention that the powers should be used to build upon the strength of the industry and not for any purpose extraneous to the industry's needs.

The amendment was rejected by 108 vote to 63 – Government majority, 45.

Correction

Remarks about *The Londoner* and other newspapers made by Lady Trumpington (C) during the recommittal stage in the House of Lords on Wednesday of the Water Bill were wrongly attributed in the parliamentary report yesterday to Lord Ardwick (Lab).

UK leading way out of recession

FINANCE BILL

The United Kingdom's financial policies now represented the broad consensus of international opinion, **Mr Leon Brittan**, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said when he moved second reading of the Finance Bill in the Commons.

He disclosed that the Government had ended the year with a large part of its contingency reserve unspent, but there was less shortfall in spending than had been anticipated at Budget time, last month.

He accused the Opposition of peddling a cruel deception in putting forward its policies under the cloak of seeking to help the unemployed.

Mr Brittan said the continuity and firmness of Government policies had made a major contribution to reducing inflation and interest rates. That was the key to securing a sound recovery and the Budget had maintained the strategy.

Lower inflation and interest rates which boosted companies' cash flow and consumer spending had been made possible because the Government had controlled the money supply and Government borrowing which was among the lowest in the industrial world.

The outturn for 1982-83 might prove to be a little higher than they had thought last month. The figures for the central Government borrowing requirement published yesterday had been £1,250m more than in the financial statement published on budget day. It was too early to be sure what that implied for the 1982-83 PSBR, but it seemed likely that that too would be higher than previously anticipated.

There was, however, no question of any failure of the public expenditure control system. There had been only one very minor breach of cash limits and they had ended the year with a large part of the contingency reserve unspent.

There seemed to have been less *shortfall than had been expected at* Budget time. In the latter part of the year they had anticipated that spending would fall substantially short of the prevision made for it. They had taken action to encourage spending to come close to the amount *provided for it* and the effect of that action looked now as if it had been greater than they had thought probable at the time of the Budget.

That might, to some extent, have been caused by expenditure occur*ring in 1982-83 which would* otherwise have occurred in 1983-84. To that extent, pressure on spending in 1983-84 would be reduced.

The United Kingdom's financial policies now represented the broad consensus of international opinion. Others in Europe, such as France, which had once pursued different policies, were moving in the British direction.

Having entered recession rather earlier than many countries, Britain was now leading the world out of recession. (Labour laughter) United Kingdom output had been rising – by $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent between the second quarter of 1981, the trough of the current economic cycle, and the third quarter of 1982. That compared with falls in others countries. Industrial production had risen by $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent over a similar period, also compared with falls in other countries.

That had not been the result of traditional reflation by pumping Government money into the system, but largely because of lower inflation and lower inflationary expectations that real domestic demand was increasing strongly. In the fourth quarter of 1982 it had been more than $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent higher than in the second quarter of 1981.

Output was expected to increase by 2 per cent in 1983 with slightly stronger growth envisaged in the first half of 1984.

The Opposition amendment once again decried the high levels of taxation. I readily accept (he said) that the tax burden is higher than we would like.

But for all taxpayers at three-quarters of average earnings and above, income tax now accounted for a smaller share of gross income than it did when the Government came to power.

Taken together, the measures last autumn and in the Budget would benefit business by about £1,250m in a full year.

The Government's proposals had been very well received by industry *and many companies were engaged* in reviewing their portfolios of prospective developments.

Proposals which did not appear in the Bill included new rules for the tax treatment of stock issued by companies at a deep discount and *new rules to allow payment of* interest gross on Eurobonds. In addition, legislation would be introduced to enable selected freeport sites to be designated. As the Bill progressed, new clauses would be brought forward to deal *with these.*

Mr Peter Shore, Chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs (Tower Hamlets, Stepney and Poplar, Lab), moved an amendment that the House decline to give a second reading to the Bill which "*failed to meet the needs of* Britain's severely depressed economy and industry, which did not even seek to reduce the 3,500,000 unemployed and which would result in a higher level of taxation than when the Government came to office".

He said the Budget proposals the Bill sought to legislate would have only a marginal effect on the course of the British economy yet it represented the Government's major policy decision for the year.

The deep slump into which its policies had plunged the United Kingdom in the past four years was programmed to continue. On the Government's own assessment unemployment would rise by a further 300,000 this year and the tax changes were designed to maintain a burden on the country substantially higher than when the Government took office.

The proportion of national income taken in taxation would on this year's estimates amount to no less than 39 per cent, a slight improvement on 1981 and 1982, but it was astonishing that over four years of Conservative Government the proportion of national income taken in taxation was no less than 12 per cent higher than it was when Labour was last in office.

Together with high interest rates and cuts in public expenditure, increased taxation had been a major instrument in damaging the British economy and thus increasing the vast total of unemployed.

What *made it particularly* disgraceful was that on no other subject than taxation had the Conservative party in opposition made such categoric promises which they had subsequently betrayed. His view was that Britain was heavily over-taxed now *in relation to the* needs of the economy.

One of the things genuinely needed in order to get some growth and life and activity in the economy and reduce unemployment was to ease the burden of taxation.

Since the Government took office, personal taxes had increased not only for average earners, but also for those on below average incomes. Those earning five times the average income, around £40,000 a year, were paying a smaller percentate of their income in taxes, and those on the top levels of income, 10 times the average, had seen a dramatic fall in their tax burden.

Resort boycotts Mencap in holiday hotel clash

By Craig Seton

Mencap, Britain's leading organization for the mentally handicapped, has been told to stay out of an increasingly bitter controversy in the Devon seaside resort of Teignmouth over a hotel which specializes in holidays for the handicapped.

The organization, whose secretary general is Brian Rix, the actor, plans to hold a press conference in the town next month "to alleviate some of the misunderstandings, misconceptions and untruths" about the mentally handicapped after scenes in the resort last year when handicapped holidaymakers were banned from some public houses and cafés because of alleged anti-social behaviour.

Now Teignmouth Town Council has rejected an invitation to the press conference next month at the Royal Hotel, which caters for the mentally handicapped and mentally ill from long-stay hospitals.

The council has accused Mencap of showing "prejudice right from the start" by choosing the hotel at the centre of the controversy for the conference which will be held jointly with Mind, the National Association for Mental Health, and the Spastic Society. A spokesman for Mencap said yesterday he was amazed at the council boycott.

Mr Don Riddell, mayor of Teignmouth, said yesterday: "We do not need outside organizations to come here and tell us what good work they are doing. Mencap is a worthy organization but it should be using its best endeavours to end the differences between the hotel and the townspeople.

He said about a hundred mentally and physically handicapped patients at a time spent holidays at the Royal Hotel. Last year there had been problems of unsocial habits in the resort, such as urinating or being sick in public places. The council and traders prefer a smaller number, perhaps 30 or 40 at a time under proper supervision.

He said the main objection to the press conference was the intention to hold it at the hotel and suggested that a neutral place, such as the council chamber would be better.

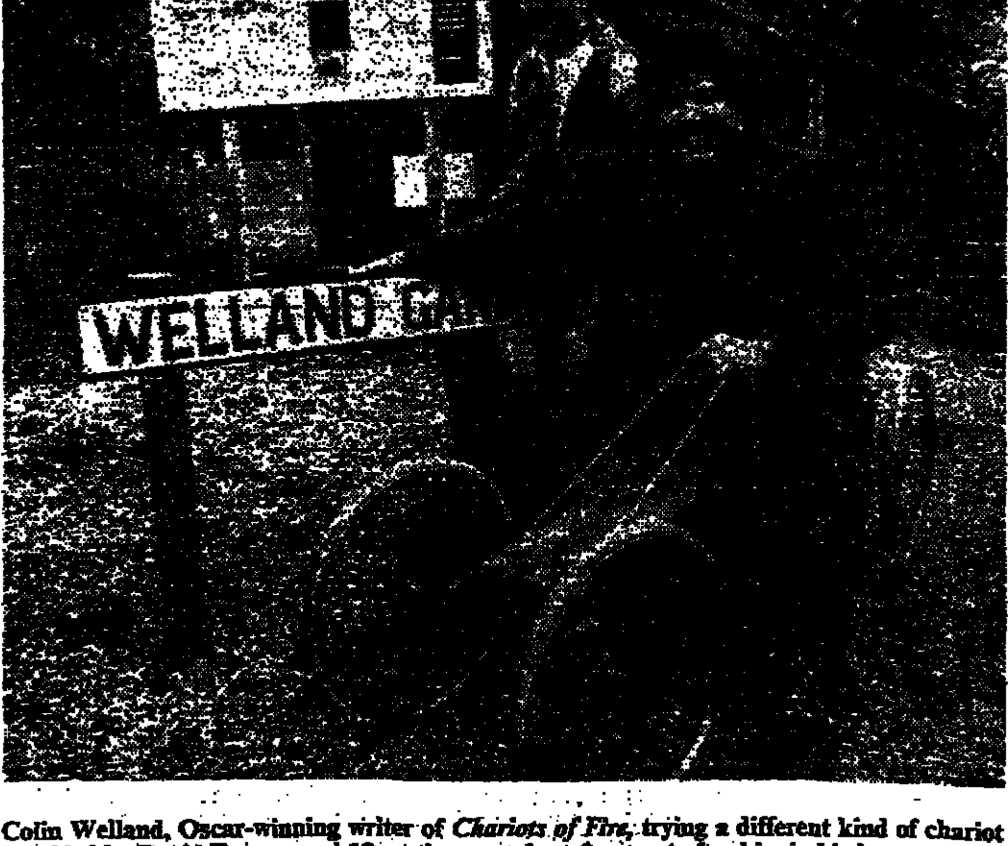
A Mencap spokesman said that Mr Rix would attend the press conference which was not public and was being held for an invited audience which included the council and the local chamber of commerce.

"We simply want the opportunity to explain some of the simple facts about mental handicap, not issue a polemic.

"A lot of problems are caused by ignorance, not prejudice. We hope that by fighting ignorance rather than by arguing with people whose knowledge of the subject is limited we can allay fears and eliminate prejudice. Our view of the council boycott is one of puzzlement and sadness."

The owner of the Royal Hotel is Mr Paul Bourge, who also runs a holiday hotel for the handicapped at Weston-super-Mare in Somerset. He said yesterday he was proud to cater for the blind, spastic, people with such difficulties as spina bifida and others with mental handicaps or illnesses.

"We have been subjected to every kind of pressure in Teignmouth but nothing will deter us from giving these people a nice holiday. The whole Teignmouth saga is just amazing."



Colin Welland, Oscar-winning writer of *Chariots of Fire*, trying a different kind of chariot provided by David Evans, aged 12, at the renaming of a street after him in his home town of Newton-le-Willows, Merseyside.

Foreign Service postings oversold, MPs say

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

British servicemen and their families posted to Hongkong are finding that life there is not all they had hoped and been led to expect it would be, an all-party committee of MPs said yesterday.

The Commons Select Committee on Defence, which in July last year visited the British garrison in Hongkong to learn about their conditions of service, criticized the literature issued to servicemen being sent there. It said that although it was comprehensive and informative "the overall emphasis is possibly too enthusiastic to give a fair impression of the posting".

The committee said that many families felt the posting had not lived up to expectations; many found living in a high rise building in tropical temperatures and humidity difficult to adjust to.

In evidence to the committee, published yesterday, Major-General Chapple, the former commander of the British forces in Hongkong, said: "It is a fact that soldiers and wives do read too much into what one might describe as a "glossy brochure".

The committee welcomed his statement that steps were being taken to achieve a better balance. It stated: "This is a problem of man management and ... a determined effort to educate servicemen about unfamiliar difficulties would probably be rewarded by improvements in morale."

The committee suggested modest improvements in two elements of the local overseas allowance, paid to servicemen overseas where expenditure on items of day-to-day living is higher than in the United Kingdom, the first for the cost of air-conditioning and the second for the cost of running a car.

Of the 600 men of the 1st Battalion Scots Guards at Stanley, some distance from shopping and other facilities, only 37 are car-owners.

The committee, noting that rates of pay for Gurkhas serving in Hongkong are well below those in other British units, urged the Ministry of Defence to explore the possibility of improvements in their conditions.

House of Commons: Second Report from Defence Committee, Session 1982-83, British Forces in Hong Kong (Stationery Office, £3.75).

South African Indians tell Attenborough to stay away

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Most leaders of the South African Indian community believe Sir Richard Attenborough should not come here next week to attend the opening of his award-winning film *Gandhi*, which will be shown only to racially segregated audiences when it goes out on general release. His presence, it is felt, will be lending respectability to apartheid.

Most Indians also feel, however, that because of its message of non-racialism and non-violence, it is better that the film should be shown to segregated audiences than to none at all.

"If people, and especially the Government, change their feelings as a result of seeing it, I would be very happy," Mrs Susheila Gandhi, a daughter-in-law of the Mahatma, told *The Times* yesterday.

A frail 78-year-old, Mrs Gandhi was – until she became ill – the managing trustee of the Phoenix Settlement, an agrarian self-help community founded by Gandhi during the 21 years he spent in South Africa as a young British-trained lawyer. She turned down an invitation to attend a Durban première of the film as a protest against segregated cinemas, and thinks Sir Richard should have made the same gesture.

In the case of charity performances, it is possible to apply to the Government for a special permit, allowing a film to be shown to a multiracial audience. This was not done, however, in the case of the Johannesburg premiére of *Gandhi*, which Sir Richard is due to attend next Thursday.

Recriminations were flying yesterday about how this came to pass. Ster-Kinekor, the South African agents for Columbia Pictures, which has the distribution rights for *Gandhi* in South Africa, says it was up to the National Cancer Association of South Africa, for whose benefit the première is being held, to apply for a multi-racial permit.

Mr John Delport, the association's national secretary, told *The Times*: "I know you will find this hard to believe, but we simply did not realize that cinemas were segregated.

When we realized our mistake and applied for a permit, it was too late... We ourselves are a non-racial organization,

Indian leaders in the Transvaal are to defy the law by showing *Gandhi* to racially-mixed audiences at "sneak previews" in Lenasia, an Indian township outside Johannesburg, and in the Fordsburg suburb of the city.

Bishops will not stay silent, Mugabe told

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

In a studied reply to an attack 10 days ago by Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, in which he described them as "sanctimonious prelates", Zimbabwe's Roman Catholic bishops today upheld what they call a duty to speak on political matters when individual rights are involved.

In a statement to mark the third anniversary of independence on Monday the bishops said they regretted the unfortunate situation in some parts of the country, but said there were indications that life in the ravaged province of Matabeleland was returning to normal after bloody anti-insurgency operations by the secruity forces.

"Drought relief is being resumed, curfews are being lifted, stores and schools are being reopened and bus services are being restored," they said.

The latest word from the bishops comes on the heels of an Easter pastoral statement in which they denounced army brutality, which they said had resulted in a reign of terror. Hundreds of peasants had been killed, maimed and raped in wanton atrocities.

Mr Mugabe, responded some days later by bitterly censuring the bishops, saying they had submitted to external pressure to condemn the Government.

In their latest statement, the bishops say they do not see these exchanges as marring the good relationship between the Government and churches and that their sole objective in speaking out had been to promote true and lasting peace.

"We believe that Government has both the right and duty to protect its citizens from dissident activity, and to use its armed forces for this purpose. But we condemn wanton violence by whomsoever it is committed", they said. "In such violence it is always the innocent who incur great suffering. It is on their behalf that we speak. We are confident that Government shares our concern in these matters."

They also welcomed Mr Mugabe's assurances that allegations of brutality would be investigated and any guilty members of the security forces punished.

Meanwhile, the Government has announced that armed escorts willl accompany trains running between Bulawayo and the western border town of Plumtree after a guerrilla attack on a train at the weekend in which the driver was killed

● BULAWAYO: An official of Mr Joshua Nkomo's opposition Zapu Party has been sentenced to five years in jail for illegal possession of arms of war, according to the *Bulawayo Chronicle*, AFP reports.

Mr Aleck Tshabangu, aged 54, was local chairman of the party in the south-western town of Gwanda, as well as chairman of the government-sponsored rural council there.

● The Zimbabwe High Commission in London will hold a reception next week to mark the country's third anniversary of independence; but Mr Nkomo, who is now in London, has not been invited, PA reports.

Nuclear freeze vote delayed by Republicans

From Mohsin Ali
Washington

Republicans forced the Democrat controlled House of Representatives to postpone until next week a vote on a resolution calling for a halt to development and deployment of new United States and Soviet nuclear weapons.

Democrats are confident that the non-binding resolution will be easily adopted probably next Wednesday. The Republicans had prepared about 40 amendments aimed at weakening the resolution, which is strongly opposed by President Reagan.

Opponents of the freeze said the resolution would prevent the admisistration from modernizing US Nuclear forces to match the big Soviet military build-up. The postponement came on Wednesday, after a long debate.

Swedes accuse Russia over spy submarine

From Christopher Mosey
Stockholm

An official government report on an incident last year in which a foreign submarine entered Swedish waters off the top-secret eastern naval bese of Musko is expected to disclose that the Soviet Union was responsible for the incursion, using it to test new underwater vehicles, it was reliably reported yesterday.

The report by the parliamentary commission appointed by Mr Olof Palme, the Prime Minister, will be published on April 26 but details were leaked yesterday by the newspaper *Dagens Nyheter*.

Members of the commission refused either to confirm or deny this story.

The Soviet Union has repeatedly denied it was responsible and the identification could lead to a diplomatic dispute.

Drifting pack ice takes polar walker south

By Richard Dowden

There was no relief again yesterday for David Hempleman-Adams, the 26-year-old Bristol man who is walking alone to the North Pole. The aircraft which drops his food supplies has been delayed for six days by bad weather and his emergency rations are designed to last for only seven days.

"He will not die of starvation yet. He will eke out his rations", Mr Martin White, his London-based contact man said.

"But his problem is working out an equation. He usually consumes and uses up about 7,000 calories a day. His emergency rations give him only 20 or 3,000 calories a day, so he has to do less or even stay still. This means he is actually going backwards at the rate of three miles a day, because the pack ice drifts south as it melts.

"He is very depressed, but it is my guess he will not give up yet. He is very, very determined and very strong", Mr White said.

The 60ft ice ridges are behind him and the temperature has risen from minus 50C to minus 35C. The possibility of a break in the ice becomes more likely with every day that passes.

Nearer the Pole, there is also a greater danger of being attacked by polar bears. Virtually every North Pole expedition has been harassed by polar bears. Mr Hempleman-Adams is carrying a light rifle.

Protest against dockyard closure

Gibraltar unions 'black' Royal Navy fleet

From Richard Wigg, Gibraltar

The Navy visit here, which has been roundly condemned by Spain's Socialist Government, has run into familiar British-style trade union trouble.

Water and fuel supplies have been cut off from the 11 warships and two submarines led by the aircraft carrier Invincible, with Prince Andrew on board, which docked on Wednesday.

The action by union members among the 1,400 employes in the dockyard was intended as a protest against its closure.

However, it naturally became entangled with the Madrid protest to the clear embarrassment of Mr Joe Bassano, branch Secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, and who is also leader of the Gibraltar Socialist Labour Party. He agreed to cooperate with the Navy in "special cases" after a storm of protest greeted the start of what was to have been a 48-hour blacking to stop the fleet being readied for the Spring Train manoeuvres due to start on Monday.

Mr Bassano promised the blacking would not prevent the Navy being ready to sail from Gibraltar as scheduled on Monday. He admitted his union members would not suffer. Over the weekend they would be paid double fine.

He said the nuclear-powered submarine Splendid, which arrived an hour after the blacking had begun, was given shore-supplied electricity and yesterday, the flagship Bristol was attended to, because its water-making equipment had broken down. The blacking had earlier prevented the destroyer getting shore water.

A Navy spokesman admitted that the blacking, ordered by the Gibraltar Trades Council, was "causing a lot of inconvenience to sailors a long time at sea and described the situation as "unfortunate".

Watched by only two of the three Spanish vessels which witnessed the arrival, the Spring Train force of about 4,000 officers and men did training exercises aboard their ships, according to the spokesman, who said any further details were "naturally secret".

The blacking, has been condemned by Sir Joshua Hassan, Gibraltar's Chief Minister, as ill-timed and playing into the hands of the colony's enemies. It has also evidently made the unions unpopular among many ordinary Gibraltarians.

Mr Wilfrid Garcia, president of Gibraltar's Chamber of Commerce, emphasized how much Gibraltar need Navy visits, both economically and politically.

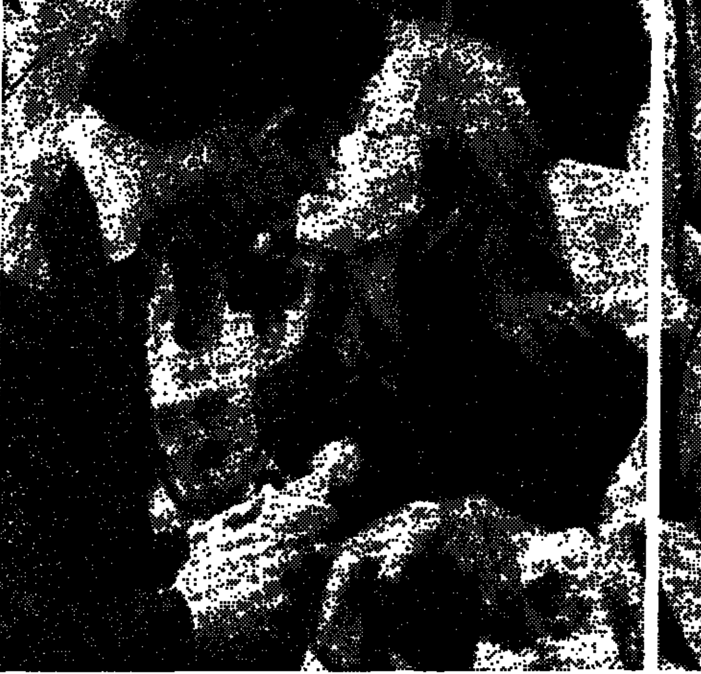
"We can only count on Mrs Thatcher for gestures like this", he said. "The Foreign Office does not seem to be getting tc message that Gibraltar's economy has got to be supported so that it does not matter what the Spaniards do."

The Spanish protest, he said, was dictated by a belief that they had a commanding position in netotiations with Britain over the Rock's future, because the colony's economic difficulties had been increased by last December's partial opening of the frontier with Spain.

● MADRID: Dispatching the British fleet to Gibraltar was "an anachronistic act, politically not a very intelligent act" Señor Fernando Morán, Spain's Foreign Minister, said in an interview broadcast here yesterday by the state-run national radio, Harry Debelius writes.

Señor Morán was interviewed by a radio reporter on his arrival in Mexico City, his first official stop on a Latin American goodwill trip which will also take in Colombia. He left Madrid on Wednesday.

The opinion of Señor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, was somewhat more subdued. He said that his Government would maintain "the necessary balance between prudence and firmness", while at the same time "acting bilaterally and in other forums to make it plain that we consider the British action to be out of proportion with Spain's own conduct".



Mitterrand explains expulsions

From Diana Geddes
Paris

President Mitterrand has denied that the expulsion from France earlier this month of 47 alleged Russian spies and their families was in any way intended to be an act of hostility toward Russia.

It was the first time that Mitterrand commented in public on the affair. He was being interviewed on Swiss television on the eve of a two-day official visit to Switzerland.

"It is normal that when a country discovers illegal activities being carried out on its territory, it reacts," M Mitterrand said. "That should surprise no one. It is not a special act of hostility towards, the country in question... My relations with the Soviet Union will be excellent the day that both of us understand that mutual respect is the best of international law."

● As the two Britons expelled in a "tit for tat" retaliation left Moscow yesterday, diplomats said they were puzzled by continuing anti-French statements in the Soviet press, which could indicate that the Soviet Union does not intend to retaliate against France on a large scale, Richard Owen writes.

At Moscow airport Squadron-Leader David Williams, the assistant Air Attache, and Mr Anthony Robinson of the *Financial Times* were seen off by a large group of friends and colleagues, including Sir Ian Sutherland, the British Ambassador.

Angolan leader in secret talks with Shultz

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington

The United States and the Marxist regime in Angola have taken a further step towards normalizing relations after a secret meeting this week between Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, and Lieutenant-Colonel Manuel Alexandre Rodrigues, the Angolan Interior Minister.

It was the highest-level meeting between the Two countries since Angola became independent from Portugal in 1975. Colonel Rodrigues may also have a meeting with Vice-President George Bush before he returns to Angola.

American officials cautioned that the establishment of full diplomatic relations with the Luanda Government would not be possible until there was an angreement on the withdrawal of some 25,000 Cuban troops from Angola.

Colond Rodrigues, who is considered to be the second man in the Angolan Government, came to Washington for talks on a Cuban withdrawal and the associated problem of Namibian (South West African) independence. He had been expected to bring with him a new proposal for the parallel withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola and South African forces from Namibia. However, US officials said he had made no such proposal.

Eitan's insults rebound

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

A bitter political argument has erupted in Israel over remarks made by the outgoing Chief Lieutenant-General of Staff, Rafael Eitan, who boasted to a Knesset committee this week that, after Israel had further multiplied its West Bank settlements, "all the Arabs will be able to do is scuttle around like drugged cockroaches in a bottle".

A group of 18 left-wing Knessett members, including 10 from the main opposition Labour Party, have written to Mr Moshe Arens, the new Defence Minister, demanding that he reprimands the general and describing his remarks as "a stain on the honour of the Army". Another deputy, Mr Tewfik Toubi of the Rakah Communist party, has written to the Attorney General urging him to prosecute General Eitan for "racist remarks".

The controversy began on Tuesday when the Army commander, an officer noted for his outspoken political views, made his farewell visit to the all-party defence and foreign affairs committee, during which he read out a scatological poem dedicated with "respect and contempt" to Mr Yossi Sarid, one of the most dovish members who belongs to the Labour Party.

The supposedly satirical Hebrew verse made reference to people who crawled up the tails of animals and found themselves covered in what parliamentarians later translated as "manure".

Questioned about the recent spate of stone-throwing attacks against Israelis in the West Bank, General Eitan was reported to have told the meeting he saw no reason why it could not be stopped. "All we need to do is carry on with our settlement effort and increase it," he said. "When 100 settlements are established between Nablus (the largest occupied Arab town) and Jerusalem, there will be no stones thrown at Jews there."

To the astonishment of some committee members, the general – who is due to retire later this week – then added: "When we have settled the land, all the Arabs will be able to do will be to scuttle about like drugged cockroaches in a bottle." His remarks were later compared by reserve General Matti Peled, a leader of the Israeli peace movement, to the terminology of the Nazis, who frequently referred to the Jews as "rats" and "lice".

The demeaning reference to the West Bank Arabs, combined with the reading of the obscene poem (which General Eitan had apparently composed in advance), have cast a further shadow over the retirement of Israel's second longest serving Chief of Staff. He had earlier been disgraced by the Kahan Commission report

Cairo second thoughts on Reagan proposal

From Our Correspondent, Cairo

Egypt is reassessing its commitment to the Reagan plan in the light of the initial failure of talks between Jordan and the PLO on implementing the American proposals, a Foreign Ministry official here said on Thursday. He emphasized that Egypt did not consider the Reagan plan dead, but said: "We have no firm position on it."

Dr Ussama al-Bazz, President Mubarak's chief foreign policy adviser, said on Wednesday that Egypt would "float fresh ideas to reconcile differences between Jordan and the PLO," but the Foreign Ministry declined to say what these ideas were.

Dr al-Bazz was reacting to a statement by Mr Yassir Arafat, chairman of the PLO executive, who said in Stockholm: "We shall do our best to continue these joint talks with the Jordanians."

Asked whether Egypt was prepared to proceed with establishing normal relations with Israel if the Reagan plan died and the Israelis continued building settlements in the West Bank, a Foreign Ministry source replied: "That is a very difficult question". The only condition on the return of Mr Saad Mortada, Egypt's ambassador to Tel Aviv, was a timetable for an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, he said, but that was only one aspect of normal relations.

● KHALDE: Israeli, Lebanese and United States negotiators resumed talks informally here yesterday in their continuing efforts to secure a withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon, AFP reports.

Stolen kisses in a crowd

A warm kiss on the cheek for the Prince of Wales and a more courtly kiss on the hand for the Princess, darling of the Melbourne crowd yesterday.

The city is the last point of call in Australia for the royal couple who fly to New Zealand on Sunday for a two-week tour.

As with every leg of their Australian tour, the Prince and Princess were given a resounding welcome when they arrived at the airport.

During speeches of welcome it was announced that hundreds of deprived and orphaned Australian children will have a special present from the couple when they leave for New Zealand.

The Princess has been given hundreds of toys, books and stuffed animals for Prince William during her progress through the towns and cities of Australia. So the royal couple have decided to give something back. The huge pile of presents will be shared with children in homes and orphanages throughout the land, Mr Victor Chapman, their press secretary, said.

Like the thousands of bouquets the Princess has received during her visit, which are sent to hospitals, government authorities have been asked to distribute the presents to those who would appreciate them most.

Prince Charles assured the Melbourne that Prince William would be "taking back with him countless presents" and would need no more.

Today the royal couple will visit different parts of Victoria

Algeria 'in £300m arms deal with Britain'

Britain is about to win a £300m arms deal with Algeria, the military journal *International Defence Review*, said in London. It includes six 120ft fast patrol boats from Brooke Marine, of Lowestoft, Suffolk.

The Algerians are also ordering two tank landing ships from Brooke Marine and Vosper Thornycroft. Helicopters, 20 to 30 British Aerospace Hawk jet trainers, and armoured vehicles.

The export agreement, or "memorandum of understanding," has not yet been signed, the journal adds.

31,500 Sikhs pledge lives

Delhi (Reuter) – Thousands of Sikh volunteers took vows in the city of Amritsar to sacrifice their lives for their cause in an intensification of the Sikh militant campaign in Punjab.

Harchand Singh Longowal, leader of the Sikh Akali Dal party, presided at the oath-taking ceremony which 31,500 took, he said. A force of 100,000 is planned.

Struggle ends

Bologna, (Reuter)–Italy's left-wing Prima Linea (Front Line) guerrilla group, once the most powerful group after the Red Brigades, has abandoned its armed struggle against the state, Signor Paolo Zambianchi, one of its leaders, told journalsts while on trial. Last year 87 of its members were jailed for a total of 467 years.

Finnish bribes

Helsinki, (Reuter) – Six executives of the Finnish company Siemens Oy have been charged with bribing officials (between, 1975 and 1982) to obtain orders, the public prosecutor said. Officials employed by Helsinki's underground railway and the national post office were also named.

Russian shot

Moscow, (Reuter) – A Russian named only as V. Vecher, accused of taking part in massacres of villagers during the Second World War, has been shot as a war criminal, a Soviet newspaper reported. He was sentenced to death by a Leningrad military court.

Sicily arrests

Palermo, (AP)–Police took into custody 12 people for questioning in connection with the killing on Tuesday of Antonio Sorci, 78, known as Nino the Rich, and of his son Carlo. The elder Sorci was a suspected drugs smuggler.

B52 found

Las Vegas (AP) – An American B52 bomber which disappeared on Monday was found after a two-day search through snow and rain to have crashed into a southern Utah mountainside, killing all seven crew.

Nuclear leak

Brussels, (AFP)–"Slightly radioactive" water is leaking from the Tihange nuclear power plant in the Ardennes, the operating company Intercom said. The pollution was insignificant and the plant would be shut for about 10 days.

Trouble at mill

Bombay, (Reuter) – More than 1,000 striking textile mill workers, including their leader, Datta Samant, were arrested in Bombay for defying an official ban on demonstrations. They tried to protest outside homes of MPs who have yet to solve the city's 15-month-old mill strike.

The message of Chicago

American blacks flex their new-found muscle at the polls

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington

This week's election of Mr Harold Washington as the first black Mayor of Chicago was dramatic confirmation that the black electorate in the United States is becoming an increasingly visible and strategically crucial voting block.

If it had not been for a massive turnout by black voters, who comprise about 40 per cent of the city's registered electorate, Mr Washington would not even have won last February's Democratic primary. Conversely, if Mr Washington had not emerged early in the contest as a viable candidate, then many blacks would not have bothered to vote at all.

The Chicago election has important implications for the Democratic Party as it prepares for next year's presidential elections. Blacks form the single most cohesive element in the Democratic Party coalition, and a massive show of black voting power as witnessed in Chicago this week, could enable a Democratic president to move into the White House again in 1985.

However if the party is seen to be leaning too far in an effort to capture black support it will risk alienating the same kind of white voters who moved en masse from the Democratic to Republican camps in the Chicago mayoral contest. The race issue is very much a two-edged sword.

The result also contains important lessons for the nation's black leaders as they discuss whether to field a black presidential candidate in the 1984 primaries. Some believe that Mr Washington's campaign, which attracted the support (albeit belated) of most national Democratic Party leaders, proves that black political progress is best achieved by working from within the party. Others, however, among them the black political activist, the Rev Jesse Jackson, maintain that a black presidential candidate is needed not only to symbolize the growing strength of black voters but also to dramitize the plight of blacks and other minorities



Rev Jesse Jackson: Seeks "coalition of rejection."

Blacks account for 10.5 per cent of the electorate, yet only 20 out of 435 US congressmen are black. There are no black state governors. Only at city level, in places like Los Angeles, Atlanta Detroit, Washington and Birmingham, have blacks made it to the top, a fact that reflects the changing demographics of American cities.

However, over the past two years blacks have increasingly started to flex their political muscles.

Just how important the black vote has become was summed up in a new study by the influential Joint Centre for Political Studies in Washington, which said: "A Presidential Democratic victory in 1984 is inconceivable without a strong black showing in northern cities and the south".

The study noted that the black vote was heavily concentrated in six northern states – Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania – which are of vital importance in presidential elections because of the large numbers of votes they carry.

It is statistics such as these that have persuaded some black leaders that it would be worthwhile fielding a black presidential candidate

Mr Jackson, president of People United to Save Humanity (Push), who has already been testing the waters in Iowa and Rhode Island, wrote in a recent article that a black candidate would force the Democratic Party to have a greater appreciation of the black vote.

"Eighteen million black voters," he wrote "can be the cornerstone of a new coalition of the rejected (the real silent majority) that can create new political options in 1984".

Others disagree, arguing that a black candidate could divide black leaders and drain support from the Democratic nominee.

The question of a black candidate will not be settled until next month, by which time black leaders will have had time to study how the present Democratic runners propose dealing with issues of special interest to blacks.



Oil slick meeting founders

A burning oil well spewing flame and smoke in Iran's offshore Nowruz field, north of Kharg island. The photograph was taken by a crewman on a passing oil tanker.

Wide differences between warring Iraq and Iran yesterday forced a further postponement of talks in Kuwait on capping the shattered Iranian oil wells which have been spewing crude into the Gulf since early March, conference sources said.

Ministers from eight Gulf states, including Iran and Iraq, had hoped to meet in full session in the morning.

Amid claim and counterclaim, Iraq said yesterday Iran's latest offensive had been defeated with 9,832 troops killed and "not one inch" of Iraqi land lost.

Earlier Tehran announced that Iranian forces had captured 12 square miles of Iraqi territory and killed 6,400 Iraqi troops in their latest drive.

Tehran radio said another 900 Iraqi troops had been killed or wounded during a counter-attack at dawn on Wednesday.

Chaos in Rhineland as floods recede

Bonn (Reuter) – Flood waters from the rain-swollen Rhine began to recede yesterday but officials said it would take weeks to repair damage in Cologne, Bonn and other Rhineland towns.

Much of the historic old centre of Cologne was still under water, swamping restaurants, bars and nightclubs and causing a third day of traffic havoc.

One bar owner, typifying the humour with which residents have adapted to life under 3ft of water, set up bar stools in the street outside his flooded establishment and served beer to the firemen.

Police in Cologne had to set up roadblocks to keep away thousands of sightseers, pressing for a glimpse of the worst floods in 13 years, who were hampering relief workers.

As the floods receded in Bonn, murky water still washed around the entrances to the Bundestag building and in one low-lying part of the capital postmen delivered the mail by boat yesterday.

Flooding also receded in eastern France after five days of widespread inundation in which 12 people were reported to have died. But officials said the situation was still worrying east of Paris where the levels of the Seine, Marne and Yonne rivers were likely to continue rising for another five days.

West German river police said barge traffic on the Rhine, West Europe's busiest inland waterway, would not resume before Sunday at the earliest.

Rhineland city officials said it was too early to assess the cost of damage but an official in Koblenz, where flooding was the worst since 1926, said he feared severe damage from heating oil which had seeped out of flooded basements.

Trade and agriculture sources said planting of summer grain crops in West Germany was running three to four weeks behind schedule because of prolonged heavy rain which had waterlogged fields even in areas unaffected by the flooding.

Insurance companies said most flood victims with ordinary houshold insurance policies would get no compensation but stare authorities have promised tax relief.

Telephone lines were cut in parts of Cologne and Bonn and in several villages on the Rhine and Mosel. Agriculture sources said only about half of the planned summer grain crop, usually planted by the end of March, had been sown so far.

In the Mosel valley, a district official said, flood damage to hotels, restaurants and wine cellars would run to millions of marks. Growers in the vineyards of Bernkastel and Piesport, which produce world-famous white wines, feared that heating oil could have seeped into the wine barrels.

Flood water had also washed the labels off vintage bottles, making it impossible to identify wines.

In Cologne, officials said the water level should fall back below the city's protective dyke enabling firemen to begin pumping away flood waters.

They said a key tunnel on the Rhine side expressway, the city's main thoroughfare, had been protected from flooding by giant steel gates which withstood the water pressure.

Letter from Moscow

Still a market among Russians for miracles

Just outside Moscow proper, in what used to be the countryside until Khrushchev started expanding the city limits with high-rise flats, there is a miraculous spring. Nowadays it emerges from a metal pipe in a stone wall with a chipped swan in ceramic tiles on it. But the spring – called the "Swan Princess spring" – is held to be legendary, with healing properties which go back to antiquity, or at least the eighteenth century.

On any weekend, whether in the depths of winter or now as the first hint of warmer weather begins to melt the snow and ice, you can see a procession of Muscovites with tin cans and containers wending their way down the woodland path and down steep stone steps to the spring.

The park was once the estate of a nineteenth-century industrialist, who built a grandiose turreted mansion in the grounds. It is now an agricultural institute (and sadly neglected) and quite obviously a Victorian folly, but there are those who swear Catherine the Great lived in it. Equally, people queueing to fill jugs and containers with the healing waters of the spring say Catherine used to bathe in it (presumably in the summer).

The is a strong streak of the credulous in most Russians, despite the official materialist philosophy and emphasis on science and reason. Many seem to have a powerful desire to believe in legends and folk remedies. As far as is known, the health-giving powers of the "Swan Princess" waters have not been put to the test.

The fact is many Russians are sceptical of modern medicine, and home remedies abound, most of the based on herbal brews which have their origins in Russia's peasant past. Russians place great faith in healer's such as the lady who treated the late President Brezhnev. She spawned numerous imitators who claimed tobe able to heal through the laying on of hands, and whose costomers included five-star generals and top party officials.

Another powerful trait is the persistent belief in the efficacy of eastern potions. One of the most popular remedies at the moment is a Vietnamese ointment called "Gold Star". It comes in a little red tin, has a waxy texture and is supposed to cure any ache or pain

Rather more common are mustard packs, which can be bought in chemists but are often home-made. They are widely held to be an all-purpose cure for colds, bronchitis, pneumonia, high blood pressure and all the unidentifiable aches and pains brought on by the stress of modern life. Slap on a mustard pack is every mother's answer to illness.

Belief in such remedies affects both high and low in society. The Vietnamese ointment was recently offered to me not by a peasant but by a young ministerial adviser.

Vodka, of course, is another popular panacea. Taken with salt, vodka can allegedly cure most stomach complaints, or so most Russian men argue convincingly.

But it is the miracle working power of water which has a special hold on the Russian imagination. Not long ago a Soviet newspaper exposed an old man and his son who were selling "holy water" at an exorbitant profit in a village in the Ukraine. the paper said their fame had spread far and wide and hundreds of sick people gathered every day to buy holy water (which in fact came from a tap) at five roubles a jug.

The swindlers had accumulated thousands of roubles worth of cash and gold, and boasted eight cars. The old man's reputation for miracle-working had been so great that he had been able to earn in one hour as much as a qualified doctor could make in three months and his patients had ranged from "simple people to intellectuals".

It was a sign of the times, the paper noted sourly, that when the two tricksters were arrested most of the people they had "treated" were angry with the authorities

Richard Owen

Brunei talks on British defence role

Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei (Reuter) – Lord Belstead, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, held talks here yesterday with the Sultan of Brunei on the protectorate's defence needs after independence at the end of the year and will resume discussions today, officials said.

Lord Belstead arrived here ealier yesterday and went into a meeting with Sultan Sir Muda Hassanal Bolkiah after a working lunch with British defence officials.

Lord Belstead's three-day visit comes after the abrupt departure for home late last week of Mr Arthur Watson, the High Commissioner. Official Brunei sources said the Sultanate had been unhappy about Mr Watson's handling of defence arrangements.

Thai voting ends with 13 killed

From Neil Kelly,
Bangkok

More Thais have lost their lives in the general election campaign than in 10 days of fighting with the Vietnamese on the Cambodian border. Five Thai soldiers died in the fighting, but 13 candidates and canvassers have been murdered during three weeks of campaigning for the election next Monday.

There were six killings on Wednesday alone. A candidate and one of his canvassers were killed when a bomb exploded in their car at Chiang Rai in the north, and four other canvassers were killed in a hail of automatic rifle fire while travelling on a road close to Bangkok.

These incidents are seen by experienced commentators as a sign of the fervour and interest aroused by the election, the thirteenth since the absolute monarchy came to an end in 1932.

Former communist insurgents are among the candidates. They are not standing as Communists Party candidates because communism is still outlawed but they are advocating Marxist policies.

One independent candidate at Sakon Nakorn in the northeast is the son of a local folk hero, Krong Chanadawonges, who was executed without trial in 1961 because the Government suspected he was a communist. The son, Mr Withit is conducting some of his political meetings in the field where his father was shot.

Another coalition government composed of several political parties is expected to

The niw Government is expected to be led by a compromise Prime Minister, possibly General Prem Tinsulanonda, the present holder of that office. General Prem is not a candidate but that is no disqualification as the Prime Minister needs only the support of a majority in Parliament.

Strikers seize Eiffel Tower

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Medical students in Paris marked the beginning of the third month of their strike yesterday by occupying the Arc de Triomphe and the Eiffel Tower, while doctors in teaching hospitals announced they would continue with their strike, which has brought chaos to hospitals throughout the country for the past three weeks.

Both groups are protesting against Government reforms aimed at the democratization and reorganization of what is still a highly conservative and elitist profession, and which is suffering from acute overmanning. The number of doctors in France has tripled in the past 20 years, and unemployment is now a serious problem among newly-qualified

The medical students are protesting in particular against the introduction of an examination at the end of their sixth year of studies, which, they fear, will lead to further selection and disqualification. They are also opposed to government plans to restrict post-graduate specialist training.

Their non-violent actions to publicize their nationwide strike have been immaginative and often spectacular. They have included the release of hundreds of laboratory rats and mice in public buildings; the plastering over of parking metres: the blocking of railway and Metro lines; the occupation ofthe Strasbourg cathedral spire; the removal of paving stones, to carry out "open-heart surgery" on Paris streets, and the scattering of thousands of nails on motorways.

The strike by an overwhelming majority of junior doctors and senior registrars in teaching hospitals is over planned reforms which, the doctors say, will reduce their status, severely limit promotion prospects, and harm the quality of specialist training thereby leading to an overall long-term decline in the standard of medical services.

Until now doctors have continued to provide a minimal level of service: all emergency cases have been exempt from the strike, having failed to achieve any satisfaction in their talks with the Government.

The Federation of French Doctors said yesterday the situation was becoming alarming. Some hospitals are already operating at less than 50 per cent of their normal level of activity.

Mitterrand begins Swiss tour

From Alan McGregor,
Geneva

Economic problems, including the tight currency restrictions on French tourists, loom large in the talks President Mitterrand is having during a crowded 48-hour visit to Switzerland, the first by a French President since M Armand Fallières came here in August, 1910.

He was greeted at Zurich airport yesterday by his Swiss counterpart, M Pierre Aubert, also Minister of Foreign Affairs. They went on by special train to Berne, the federal capital. In a formal address of welcome, the Swiss President referred to "friction points" and underlined the need for both governments to "energetically resist the temptations of protectionism". As a trading partner of Switzerland, France comes second only to West Germany and the French account for about 9 per cent of tourists in Switzerland.

The French party includes the Ministers of Foreign Trade and Tourism, who are having separate meetings with their Swiss opposite numbers.

The Swiss public awaits with interest the "symbolic gesture" M Mitterrand has said he will make with regard to "Napoleon's debt".

This is the claim periodically put forward by Bourg St Pierre, on the road to the Grand St Bernard pass, for payment of a 45,000 Swiss francs bill for food, materials and manpower of which Napoleazon's forces availed themselves when crossing the Alps into Italy in 1800.

While France has maintained this was settled under the 1815 Treaty of Vienna, Bourg St Pierre contends it received only a 15,000 franc token payment, and has successfully exploited its claim in more recent times to keep its name on the tourism map.



Guard of honour: President Mitterrand at Zurich – Kloten airport yesterday.

Primate defines attitude to women priests

From W P Reeves,
Wellington

Dr Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury, said here yesterday that he would be willing to take part in Anglican communion services in which women priests were involved, but he would not preside over them.

Dr Runcie said it would not be honest for him to preside jointly over a communion service in which women priests took part.

He said that he was among those who said "not yet" rather than "never" to the ordination of women.

Unlike the Church of England, the Anglican Church in New Zealand ordains women priests.

The Archbishop is due to attend a luncheon with Anglican women clergy in Auckland on April 26.

China asks New Zealand to buy more

Wellington (Reuter) Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, yesterday discussed possible joint ventures with Mr Robert Muldoon, his New Zealand counterpart.

Mr Muldoon told a press conference after the two-hour meeting that the Chinese leader was interested in more joint ventures in China, but added: "They should be further advanced before I say anyting about them."

Mr Muldoon said the talks showed there was clearly a good relationship between the two countries. Mr Zhao had raised the issue of the trade imbalance between the two countries, asking New Zealand to buy more goods from Peking to reduce it. But it was "not a major issue between us", Mr Muldoon added.

Woolworth building gets landmark status

From Christopher Thomas, New York

The Woolworth Building in Manhattan, tallest in the world from 1913 to 1930 and prototype for the romantic sykscrapers of New York, has been given landmark status, despite the furious objections of its owners.

The majestic Gothic-style spire is now overshadowed by other huge constructions, including the twin towers of the World Trade Centre, second-tallest building in the world.

Although not one of the main tourist traps, it remains an important symbol to New York and to twentieth-century America. The opening of the building 70 years ago was when New York started to get outrageous and everything in America started to get big.

It is known as the Cathedral of Commerce and is the world headquarters of Woolworth. Frank Woolworth, the company's founder, ordered it to be built higher than the Metropolitan Tower and it held its place as the world's tallest until the Chrysler Building reached a little higher.

The City Landmarks Preservation Commission, which was too late to protect other beautiful buildings swept away in Manhattan's frenetic bull-doze-and-build routine, also ordered the building's lobby to be preserved.

Woolworth has treated the building well and spent huge sums of money on it. But it has always strongly opposed landmark status as burdensome.

For years, conservationists have been fighting to have the building officially listed, but agencies seemed satisfied that Woolworth was not likely to do anything dire. Their view was confirmed in 1977, when the company started spending $22m (£14m) on restoring the facade, an enterprise that was completed last year

But despite such lavish preservation, the commission finally bowed to the increasingly vociferous cries for the structure to be protected from future generations, who might not be so munificent.

Pisani challenges press over aid to Ethiopia

From George Clark, Strasbourg

Reports in the British press that food aid sent to Ethiopia is not reaching the starving people for whom it was intended and that some had been diverted to the Soviet Union to pay for weapons for the Ethopian Army were firmly denied by Mr Edgard Pisani, EEC Commissioner for aid to the third world, in the European Parliament yesterday.

Although he did not specify it, his main target were reports from Simon Winchester published in *The Sunday Times*. He produced a bulky dossier which he had received from Addis Ababa on Wednesday and claimed that it contained documentary evidence which showed that the food had reached the starving people, both in the area controlled by the Ethiopian Government and the guerilla – controlled areas.

He challenged journalists and others to provide evidence to back their claims. They had to acknowledge that Western ambassadors in Addis Ababa and the Asian and African bureau had investigated and found that the distribution was satisfactory.

Mr Pisani said that since January, 1981, the EEC had sent 68,000 tonnes of cereals, 7,000 tonnes of skimmed milk and 4,000 tonnes of butter oil to Ethiopia and its distribution had been supervised closely by voluntary aid organization. It is not true it had gone to feed the Ethiopian Army.

On the allegation that some shipments were transferred to vessels going to the Soviet Union, Mr Pisani declared angrily: "That is not true. Never at any time has anyone produced proof of this.

Arms bill twenty times bigger than that for aid

From John Earle
Rome

The cost of a nuclear aircraft carrier is more than the gross national product of 53 of the world's poorer countries. World military spending is expanding rapidly and stands at 20 times the total of overseas development aid.

These figures were quoted by Mr Edourd Saouma, director general of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, in a speech in Rome he appealed for the grain surpluses of the main producing countries to be used to help developing countries to build national reserves against future shortages.

The developing countries themselves, Mr Saouma told FAO's committee on world food security, spend yearly as much on armanent imports as on their total food imports.

Argentine parties campaign furiously for members

From Andrew Thompson, Buenos Aires

In the past few months, Argentina's political parties have been conducting a furious membership campaign, setting up stalls in the main cities and calling on passers-by to sign up.

Florida Street, in central Buenos Aires, has become something of a democratic microcosm. The Peronists, Radicals, Intransigents, Socialists, and other parties have set up their stands only yards apart,

A small man with a moustache said: "Elections will only make things worse", to a crowd shaking their heads in disagreement. Struggling to make himself heard, he added: "Because we don't have a leader, a man with a clean record."

A second pavement politician interrupted: "Well if we don't have one, let's order a test-tube baby. Anything is better than this." Another voice chipped in: "There are no miracles. The only solution is the organization and struggle of the masses."

The parties' campaign is taking place under a law passed by the military Government last September. To obtain electoral recognition the parties must prove they have a membership of more than four per thousand names on the electoral roll in each district.

For national recognition they need to meet the minimum level in five districts, and achieve a national membership of at least two per thousand of the electorate. There are 24 electoral districts in the country.

The big parties closed their recruitment drive on March 30. Other groupings considered new under the Government's legislation have another two months to gather members. The elections are due to be held on October 30.

It is a complex process. A new member signs four membership cards. He keeps one, the party keeps one, and the others are passed on to the electoral court for verification. There have already been some problems. Some over-enthusiastic citizens seem to be joining various parties. There are also cases of errors in the way the forms are filled in. The membership cards must be laboriously cross-checked against the electoral rolls.

A further factor is that the mass parties – the Peronists and the Radicals – have yet to play out their internal struggles. The different factions in these parties are measuring their strength in the recruitment drive. These parties must hold conventions to elect authorities and nominate candidates before the September 10 deadline.

There are no hard figures yet, but some general indications of how the parties are farin. The Peronists claim that they are leading the membership battle, with 1,500,000 cards handed in to the electorate authorites. The Radicals say they are on 800,000 and rising.

Among the other parties, the Movement for Intergration and Development, the Intransigent Party, the Communist Party and a handful of others are confident that they will secure national recognition. These claims have yet to be confirmed by the eletoral authorities.

While some opinion polls give the Radicals the edge in the overall campaign, seasoned political observers expect the Peronists – who have won every election they have been allowed to take part in since 1945 – to gather most votes (barring a major internal crisis splitting the movement).

In their scenario, the Peronists might end up short of an overall majority, and 1984 could see a coalition government.

هكذا من الأصل

THE ARTS

Cinema

Having a disconcertingly wonderful time

Sophie's Choice (15)
Empire 1

The Young Ladies of Wilko (PG)
Camden Plaza

The Clinic (18)
Classic Haymarket

Tales of Ordinary Madness (18)
Screen on the Hill; Studio Oxford Circus

G'Olé! (PG)
Classic Oxford Street



Celebration of friendship: Peter MacNicol (left), Meryl Streep and Kevin Kline in *Sophie's Choice*

Why was Sophie's Choice Pakula's choice? To elaborate: why should someone as stylish and intelligent as Alan J. Pakula direct – and, for the first time, write – a relatively impersonal adaptation of a widely-read novel? Despite the film's virtues, its confident powers of evocation and skilled performances, this nagging question refuses to fade away.

William Styron's bulky novel, published in 1979, tells the semi-autobiographical story of a young Virginian in postwar Brooklyn, flexing his writing muscles in the volatile company of two fellow lodgers – Nathan, a moody charismatic Jew, and Sophie, a Polish Catholic survivor of the Holocaust. Pakula diligently reduces a discursive volume to cinematically manageable proportions; time and again he demonstrates his sensitivity to the dramatic possibilities of light, colour and the architectural quirks of everything from staircases to Brooklyn Bridge. The balance of light and shade within Sophie's apartment is skilfully moderated to suit the emotional mood; when flashbacks transport us to Auschwitz the images are drained of colour, rendering the commandant's garden flowers hideously eerie. The inspired photographer is Nestor Almendros.

Sequence by sequence, moment by moment, *Sophie's Choice* is easy to appreciate. Pakula's scenes are sharply honed and scrupulously atmospheric, and the three main performers generally play with well-modulated fervour. Peter MacNicol grins with boyish eagerness as Styron's alter ego Stingo; Kevin Kline (Nathan) unnervingly swings from elated fooling to mad rage. The one partial exception is Meryl Streep, who fractures her English and signals her emotions with such meticulous precision that one sometimes cannot see the character for the acting: this may be a performance that wins an Oscar, but it is also ripe for parody.

Yet the film's sum total remains curiously insubstantial – and, for explanation we are drawn back to the persistent question of Styron's novel and Pakula's muted response. Perhaps it is our English reserve that balks at the American obsession with celebrating friendship, but the continued spectacle of excited individuals having a wonderful time undoubtedly strikes a dead nerve. Styron deliberately sabotages the wonderful times with despair and guilty secrets: that is one of the novel's points. But the film's sabotage operation is fitful: the revelations about Sophie's and Nathan's characters come far too late properly to jolt our perceptions, while the Auschwitz sequences make their effect more through macabre background detail than foreground action. At the end of the day – and two-and-a-half hours – *Sophie's Choice* leaves us with brilliant scenes, but an incoherent framework.

The Young Ladies of Wilko, by comparison, is beautifully unified – a sustained reverie about the impossibility of recapturing love's young bloom. Both style and subject may seem surprising, for the director is Andrzej Wajda, recently known for abrasive dramas about Poland's turmoil. The present film, however, was made in 1979, after *Man of Marble* and *Rough Treatment* but before the Gdansk strike and *Man of Iron*. In place of the familiar restless pursuit of uncomfortable urban corners, Wajda's camera dwells longingly, quietly, on the landscapes and interiors of a country estate in the inter-war years. Yet Wajda has inhabited this cinematic territory before, notably in *The Birch Forest* (1970) – a film with the same literary source (the Polish writer Jaroslaw Iwazkiewicz), the same rustic landscape, thoughtful demeanour and male star (Daniel Olbrychski), and related themes of love and death.

Olbrychski's current character may not face death, but his return journey to Wilko's young ladies certainly involves rueful thoughts about lost youth. For the girls with whom he once spent a romantic holiday have drifted into spinsterhood, fretful promiscuity, boredom; only the youngest girl (played by the French actress Christine Pascal, discreetly dubbed) inspires any semblence of passion. We watch, fascinated, as past memories become enmeshed with present circumstances over outdoor walks, mealtime arguments and dance sessions round the gramophone. Edward Klosinski's photography steeps the images in beauty without ever drowning them in prettiness, and the ladies move through the drama with especially delicate resonance (particularly Maja Komorowska as the nervous, wanton Jola). If a Martian visitor demanded urgent proof of Wadja's artistic importance, *The Young Ladies of Wilko* might not be the film to exhibit first, but it is unquestionably the work of a master.

The Clinic is an Australian film about a clinic for venereal diseases; enough said, you might think. Not so, thought the early close-up of a private organ crowned with a sticking plaster hardly inspires confidence. Yet, as the film wends its plotless way through the clinic's daily round, the makers' sympathetic, honest attitude becomes increasingly apparent. We have fun with, rather than at the expense of, the varied patients – the nervous adolescents and blasé regulars, the fastidious widow and the cheerful busker ("Hey folks, how you doing?" – there is no reply). Useful information about symptoms and remedies is also imparted; the scriptwriter Greg Millin worked in a VD clinic for three years. The film's mosaic pattern and low-key style help further in avoiding the excesses of sensationalism. Chris Haywood (the young assistant in *Newsfront*) heads a lively, responsive cast; the crisp, compact direction is by David Stevens, best known for his television work on *A Town Like Alice* and the wartime soap opera *The Sullivans*.

Marco Ferreri's **Tales of Ordinary Madness** – an Italian-French co-production filmed in English on Californian locations in 1981 – views the sexual experience from a far more unpleasant perspective; woe betide us should Ferreri ever tackle extraordinary madness. The tales are spun by a sodden American poet staggering through life with a bottle in his hand, self-pity on his lips and lust in his head. It is possible, with effort, to imagine a good film from this material (derived from a book by Charles Bukowski). But Ferreri seems to have abandoned the purposeful anarchy of *Dillinger is Dead*, the film that made his reputation 15 years ago; now he merely offers the inert presentation of unedifying shocks. Ben Gazzara stumbles through with a glimmer of his usual eccentric fire; only the occasional landscape shot is worth salvaging.

G'Olé! is the official film of the 1982 World Cup football competition in Spain, directed by Tom Clegg (a sprightly British television talent), with Peter Boyle as the all-important supervising editor. Try to imagine a football equivalent of Syberberg's *Parsifal*, with the World Cup trophy as the Holy Grail and a plethora of injuries replacing Amfortas's single bleeding wound. Both films are trying experiences for the uninitiated, and both match sound with image eccentrically. The *Parsifal* cast mouth to a pre-recorded music track; the World Cup players mime their game to the accompaniment of crowd noise, a flatulent score by Rick Wakeman and Sean Connery's bored narration. The total effect, to an unsporting spectator, is dangerously soporific; Italy win.

Geoff Brown

Television

Speed on the draw

"If you keep on playing snooker you are going to end no place", Sandy Higgins was told by his teacher, Stuart Love, who had noticed his pupil's absences and who subscribed to the belief, not entirely discredited, that proficiency in snooker is a sign of a misspent youth. Mr Love recalled his warning last night in BBC2's The Hurricane, a profile of Alex Higgins, the Embassy World Snooker Champion, who will be potting away for that title again tomorrow with the urgency of a man who must win one more game before the end of the four-minute warning.

Snooker has risen in general esteem since Mr Higgins started flying round the tables, misbehaving himself off them, and endearing himself to crowds with his sporadic brilliance and consistent unpredictability. None of the witnesses in last night's programme, written with an underlying tone of admiration by Hugh McIlvanney and produced by Mike Adley, denied Mr Higgins much of the credit.

Alex Higgins – his parents called him Sandy – was born in Belfast and was drawn to the local snooker hall, The Jam Pot, mainly, he said, because he was not supposed to go in there. By the age of 12 he was taking on his elders for money. His speed, he recalled, had been a matter of survival. If you played for money, lost and could not pay, you had to be quick to dodge a blow on the head with a cue end.

He tried his luck as a stable lad in Berkshire, but, said the trainer's wife, he never did what he should have been doing. A colleague thought his affection for horses was second to his affection for betting shops.

Soon he was back in Belfast, serving a kind of apprenticeship at the YMCA, playing for half-crowns and breaking opponents as well as the rules against betting. His life then, said an old friend, consisted of hamburgers, bookmakers and snooker.

He represented Northern Ireland in the British Amateur Championship and crossed the sea to Blackburn to seek his fortune. He carried his cue like a lance and a plastic bag containing a clothes brush and a tin of boot-blacking. He was taken up by John McLaughlin, the first of what appeared to be a frame of managers whose disappearance from his life was sadly unexplained.

He won his first world championship in 1972, conceded to Ray Reardon at a point where the rules strictly prohibited him from doing so in the 1976 final, and came back triumphantly and tearfully last year.

Marriage and family, he said, not entirely convicingly, had calmed him down. His wife said he rang her twice a day wherever he was and was very considerate. The former world champion John Pulman said he was Jekyll and Hyde – "seventy-five per cent Hyde".

At the end he remained an enigma, looking something between a Thirties Broadway star and a Chicago hit-man and telling us nothing about his motivation, but he was, as always, fast-moving entertainment.

Dennis Hackett

Concerts

Youthful charms

Sinfonietta/Pay
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Music is charming again. On Wednesday the London Sinfonietta entertained with pieces by six British composers under 35, all making music that is smart, intricate and pleasurable; music to divert, or play at digging a little deeper, or maybe both. The temptation might have been to regard such a programme as a competition, but happily each piece was good enough and different enough to stand on its own.

Simon Holt's *Kites* came with a note explaining various references to Japanese kite-flying but this was not specially needed. In fact the piece was more like kites than kites really are. I did not hear much of sudden plummets, of desperate tugs on the line to keep the thing in the air, of chases across muddy fields in pursuit of escapers. All, rather, was bemused with beauty, snappily bright and sometimes suggesting Stravinsky in Far Eastern mood.

Jonathan Lloyd's Three Dances confirmed him as one of the funniest composers around. He had the nice idea of writing these choreographies for his children: first an ABC jig for string quintet, hillbilly inclined and maddeningly obtuse, perfect baby music for adults, then a wind quintet boogie-woogie that kept snatching up its sibling's toys. The last dance was a teasing portrait of a child yet to be born, again jazzy and again making progress like a monkey on a greased pole.

Robert Saxton's *Processions and Dances* ended the first half with music whose evident harmonic pull led the ear delightedly through the sober and spirited alternatives suggested by the title. And again Stravinsky was a potent presence, the work surviving a close encounter with the "Dance of the Earth" from *The Rite of Spring*.

The youngest of these six composers, Mark-Anthony Turnage, provided the longest and weightiest of the pieces. Its title, *Before Dark*, was enigmatic: it could have been the middle of a chamber symphony with its short scherzo followed by a complex set of variations unwilling to extricate themselves entirely from the earlier character. Once more there was a vigorous injection of jazz, a strange taste in a child of 1960.

Simon Bainbridge was represented by a *Concertante in moto perpetuo* that was kept in feverish circling activity with the help of Gareth Hulse as oboe soloist. Finally, Antony Pay conducted his players in a spellbinding account of Oliver Knussen's *Ophelia Dances*, a work that knows exactly how to be pretty without being feeble. It can be had on record along with other music by Knussen and Bainbridge, new, strong music that comes like so much in this concert from vivid imaginations.

Paul Griffiths

Theatre

Rich imagery of Ruskin's self-searching

Plague Wind
New End

Whistler's 1878 libel suit against Ruskin for the famous gibe that he had "asked two hundred guineas for flinging a pot of paint in the public's face" is just as rich in rhetoric and drama as the Oscar Wilde case – Whistler, like Wilde, relished the spotlight and the solo role – but is seldom, if ever, dramatized. Strange, since the spectacle of art trying to justify itself under the extreme verbal scrunity of a court of law is mesmerizing even when it does not illuminate, as the *Lady Chatterley* trial showed.

Ruskin, already subject to bouts of nervous illness, could not appear in court but Tamas McDonald's play puts him firmly at the centre of the case, and the case at the centre of his own self-examination. Every critic worth the name is as stringent with his own work as the work he criticizes, and Ruskin, despite his esteem and professorship and so forth, could also ask whether he might "speak on ethical subjects though not chastened by a woman's love", and wonder how far his vision of a choking epidemic wind of artistic debasement sprang from his own frail mental health.

That is the focus of Mr McDonald's play; and, despite the fascination of other moral and artistic issues, some unstylish under-writing, purple over-writing and a good deal of really beautiful prose, it stays at the centre.

John Bott's performance is the best I have seen him give; for all of Ruskin's anguish, the intellectual fibre is still there. In his image of a filthy storm poisoning his garden roses and strawberries there is a terror for the sullying of the Nature he loved and the art he felt should reflect it, that goes far beyond arid academicism and unbending abstract standards.

Accurately described by Ruskin as a "coxcomb", Whistler proves a splendid actor's part on the stage, as it did in life. Ian Thompson is podgier than the original but deliciously formidable once monocle is stuck in eye and one of those relentless, relished sentences starts to roll.

Joseph Charles's production, though it could use textual cuts, is lovely to look at and successfully encompasses the shifts of idiom as Ruskin sees the trial (amusingly staged in formal kimonos) in his mind's eye and, by a final irony, dreams of the fireflies in the Siena hills in an image very close to the gold shower in Whistler's painting which drew ruin upon him.

Anthony Masters

Wickedly funny travesty of Goldoni

La locandiera
Teatro del Ridotto, Venice

There is no pithy rendering in genderless English of the title of this richly naturalistic comedy, but let it be called "The Inkeeperess". Carlo Goldoni (often called "the Italian Molière", although Molière learnt his craft from Italians) was 60 when he wrote it and had left far behind the actor-dominated *commedia dell' arte* and precisely engineered farces such as *The Servant of Two Masters*.

A touring Neapolitan production of the piece has just reached Goldoni's native Venice. The house on the first night was small, but hardly because of audience resistance to staple classics. If anything it was a mark of protest, as it were of Stratford boycotting some more than usually outrageous case of monkeying about with the Bard. As written *La locandiera* has a mixed cast of nine, but it was performed in this staging by three men.

The exigencies of this casting imposed some changes of emphasis. Goldoni's heroine Mirandolina is pursued by three inhabitants of her inn: two elderly nobles (one mean, both jealous and lascivious) and the servant Fabrizio, to whom she was promised by her father on his deathbed. Also present is a young baron who is bored by women, finding them stupid, selfish and dogmatic. All this male arrogance offends Mirandolina and she takes her revenge by teasing the old men, making the baron besotted and Fabrizio be patient. Erio Masina, director, designer and drag artist, radically reinterpreted all that. The two old men – and Goldini was good at old men – were largely lost and the action reduced to triangular confrontation between mistress, servant and baron. And, whereas Goldini ends with Mirandolina promising to be a dutiful wife, the curtain-call here showed the three of them sharing one bed – less a case of "La locandiera" than of "Il campiello": the Italian press called it "*diversa*", "*provocatoria*" and "*tutto gaia*".

It was in addition highly theatrical, inventive and funny. At curtain-rise a tall box revolved teasingly above fluorescent footlights, splitting to release a sexually ambiguous Harlequin and itself become a virtuosically adaptable set. The palpable values of Goldoni's world were undermined by bizarre switches of role and gender. Grotesque figures pranced to Vivaldi and Orff, paired off peculiarly to the swelling romanticism of Puccini, married to Mendelssohn and, thereafter, jigged erotically on a see-saw to "Love is a Many-Splendoured Thing". (Michael Bogdanov should take note: anyone attempting to complain about this last scene would be laughed out of court.)

None of these comic extravagances would have held the attention, however, without the central performance of Erio Masina. His voice ranged from tinkling soprano to barking baritone; his movements (he is not a small man) were delicate without prissiness; above all, given the curiosities of the convention he was establishing, he acted the role convincingly.

But, the absent Venetians might have asked, what had all this to do with Goldoni? Was it not a retrograde step that an author who fought to escape from mere theatricalilty into the richer world of naturalistic comedy should be travestied by an actor with one bizarre talent, a talent conceivably inimical to coherent drama? Masina himself hoped, at least for the benefit of the press, that Goldoni would not turn in his grave. Goldoni, high on his plinth in the Campo San Bartolomeo, smiled and said nothing. Actors and audience greatly enjoyed themselves. But one day I would like to see the play Goldoni wrote.

Tom Aitken



Persuasive realism in *The Nine Night:* T-Bone Wilson and Oona Kirsch as the son's English girlfriend

The Nine Night
Bush

There is a paradise over the seas of sun, rum and cricket. In England there is only an occasional bottle of rum as a reminder for Hamon Williams, a Jamaican immigrant and still a stranger to his adopted country 20 years on. But his children talk with cockney accents and bring back white friends. His eldest son even wants to play football for England. "Football is not a sport, it is a *game*", retorts his father.

Edgar White's play, produced by the Black Theatre Co-Operative, outlines with sympathy the desolation that faces the generation who remember their youth in Jamaica. Mixed with Hamon's alienation to the "mother country" is his unhappiness at growing old. When he and his friend, Ferret, reminisce over a game of dominoes and a bottle of rum, or re-enact a sensational innings by Gary Sobers, they are going back in time as well as place.

His fierce protection of his home as a little piece of Jamaica is eroded by his own family. "England never came into our house before – outside is England, inside is family", he protests. Finally he sees the only way of keeping the English influence out is to return to Jamaica. His unemployed younger son agrees to go, but the elder son and daughter and wife are rooted here, and Ferret breaks down at the thought of realizing the dream. "Everybody I know is either dead or in England – I can't go home."

The cast, directed by Rufus Collins, play with persuasive realism. T-Bone Wilson's Hamon sparks in an instant from depressed lethargy to almost hysterical enthusiasm. Dona Croll as his wife, Irene, has the put-upon but fighting-back air of a woman trying to rid herself of the doormat image, and Jason Rose's Ferret reveals loneliness disguised by forced bonhomie. The writing is pungent and witty, though one or two contrived scenes do not quite work. The "confrontation" between Hamon and his son's English girlfriend fizzles out, but Irene's insidious adoption of genteel mannerisms when welcoming a white face is a far more pointed commentary.

Clare Colvin

Sweetly timed

ECO/Del Mar
Barbican

It seems strange that the man whose concerto debut at the age of eight provoked Leopold Stowkowski to acclaim him as "the most astounding genius I have ever heard" should have been hardly known in London when he gave his Queen Elizabeth Hall recital last October.

Oscar Shumsky has chosen to spend his sixty-odd years teaching, conducting, and playing in the United States and is only just returning to the solo concert platform. In the month in which he is recording the Mozart concertos, he made his London concerto debut on Wednesday at the Barbican with the English Chamber Orchestra and Norman Del Mar in a programme which began with Rossini's *Silken Ladder* Overture and ended with Beethoven's Eighth Symphony.

Both were happy companion pieces, for Shumsky's art is one that delights in both theatricality and sophistication and in the sort of childlike wonder and capriciousness that shoots through the veins of the Beethoven. All those elements were present in his Mozart Violin Concerto No 5 in A, projected in a gently individual performing style which nevertheless seemed to be born naturally out of its purely musical purpose.

The ECO had to be, and were not quite always, on their tiptoes in the opening movement, where speed was generated by bright rhythmic insistence, only to be modified and expanded into lightly suspended passages of release, each phrase finely hewn, each staccato note brushed into being by an extraordinarily deft bow. Similarly, the patrician phrasing of the Adagio, lightly floated above the orchestra like a semi-improvised vocalese, quivered at the same time with a tautly contained inner germ of life. It stole almost imperceptibly into the closing Rondo-minuet, tenderly and minutely varied in its every refrain.

Saint-Saëns's Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso, written for the young Sarasate, showed the same shy animal spirits liberated into a delightfully nonchalant virtuosity. At once uncannily youthful and sweet with the distance of time, it demanded an encore: a Bach Partita, with a new structural rigour, a shining strength of tone and keenness of pointing.

Hilary Finch

Dance

Joyce Trisler
Sadler's Wells

Besides their group of historical revivals from the Denishawn period, the Joyce Trisler Danscompany (what a silly, off-putting title) has brought works by three modern choreographers to London. Trisler herself, founder and director until her death, is represented by two group ballets and a solo, *Journey*, to Charles Ives's *Unanswered Question*: a slight piece though pleasant enough.

Her *Dance for Six* has its cast jigging about with agitated little steps to Vivaldi's "La cetra", or striking what must be meant as bold poses, except that none of the dancers has any amplitude of gesture to make them look interesting. The soft movement style derived from Trisler's origins in Lester Horton's Los Angeles company is not heightened either by the dynamics that Bella Lewitsky developed from Horton's technique, or by the theatricality of Horton himself or his most famous pupil, Alvin Ailey.

It was brave of Trisler to tackle Hindemith's *Four Temperaments*, written for Balanchine and associated with one of his most memorable ballets. Her version avoids direct comparison, but in doing so ends up with a shapeless collation of sequences that makes little of the marvellous score (not that these dancers look particularly sensitive to music anyway).

Milton Myers, who succeeded her as director, offers two short works to some ill-played Stravinsky. *Four Etudes* is marginally more interesting than *Ragtime*, especially in the quick acrobatics of the second dance, where Regina Larkin and David Christel chase each other rolling across the stage; but again there seems no great regard for the score.

Koan uses music by Stephan Micus that echoes oriental styles by setting breathy wood-wind throbbing against the faint but insistent twang of bells. Gray Veredon's choreography is equally stereotyped and soporific. The women, in costumes by Penny Howell that make them look gift-wrapped, bow and bend submissively. The men, half-stripped for action, strut unconvincingly. Towards the end there is a momentary rebellion so that you cannot accuse the work of sexism.

After Sadler's Wells, the Danscompany has other major engagements in Berlin, Paris, Washington and elsewhere. It seems a very minor company to be playing in such a big league.

John Percival

SPECTRUM

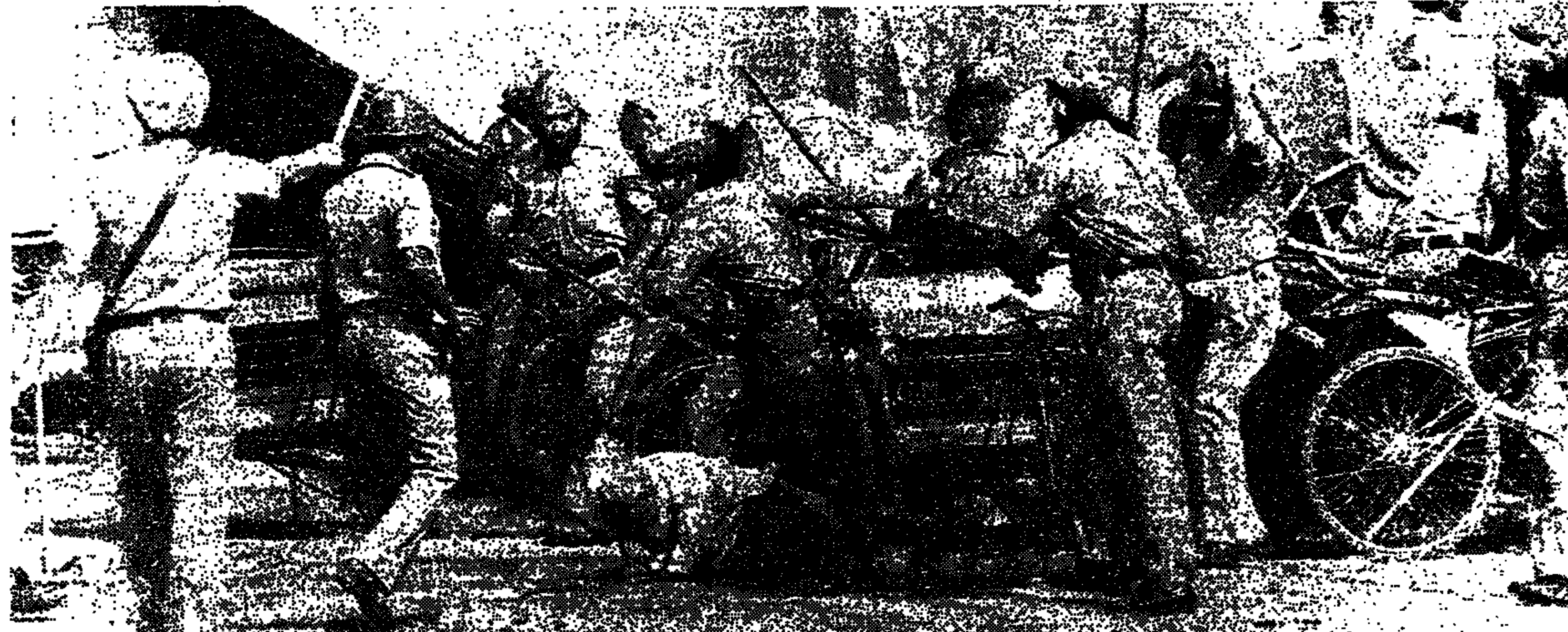


Violent, vigorous and vivid, India assaults the western sensibility. Next week, **Trevor Fishlock** ends a three-year term as South Asia Correspondent of *The Times*: a period, he writes in his farewell to the region, during which 'there has been no dull day'

Mayhem in a mirror







Indian images: top left, Mrs Gandhi; top right, Kurukshetra, where 1½m gathered for a total solar eclipse; above, a battle between Sikhs and police in the Punjab

The newsboy's aim is perfect. He stops his bicycle at the front gate and hurls the morning newspapers across the lawn. They touch down on the verandah and skid into the front door with a bang, startling the mynahs who shriek Reveille in the lime tree and wake the dozing nightwatchman. Unfolded over a cup of tea, the papers present their chronicling of astonishments, contention, confusion, anarchy and change as 700 million Indians grapple with modern times, and each other, in their ancient land.

Three die in police firing, the headlines say. Students riot over film tickets. Police kill Dacoits. Dacoits loot train. Monkeys attack police. Politician beheaded. Harijans beheaded. Harijans raped. Witches beaten to death. Urine from tap. Man leaps from funeral pyre. Pharmacists on indefinite strike. Four-year-old boy sacrificed. In-laws burn bride. Woman changes sex to make another pregnant. Monkey's death plunges town into grief. Gold found in semen. PM urges national unity.

Much mayhem is reported down-page, for violence is a commonplace, and the maintenance of order, even by ruthless means, is paramount. Police frequently open fire when crowds become frenzied and minor police killings rate only an inch of type. Buses are always crammed, and driven by ruffians, and their numerous crashes, culling people by the score, rate a paragraph or two.

Thanks to the seeping enlightenment provided by education and positive discrimination, some of the 100 million Harijans perceive their oppression more clearly. Of course, they pay for being uppity. The landlords, police and politicians who manage much of rural India with the aid of *lathi*, boot and gun have conservative ideas about social change.

Newspaper majuscules are reserved mostly for politics, the abiding interest of the upper, ruling stratum, and reported proxlixy and often impenetrably, so that reading politics is like divining meanings from tea leaves.

Politics in India is about personalities, not beliefs, not right or left. No disgrace is attached to politicians who switch allegiance for cash or access to patronage. In such a power game the policyless Maneka Gandhi can pursue her pique and start a party in the name of her dead husband to challenge her mother-in-law. Without the name Gandhi the girl would be nothing.

The papers are the main mirrors, for broadcasting is controlled by rulers who fear that free presentation of news would blow air on communal flames as well as shine too bright a light on government. There are few television sets and Indian democracy functions without benefit of box.

Even without television, the hatreds of India's diverse communities seem sometimes to be spontaneously combustible. There is a deep and haunting fear of India splitting, of its centrifugal forces growing more powerful, which is why Mrs Gandhi talks often of unity and invokes the dread image of "the foreign hand", like a scolding mother telling her children the bogeyman will get them if they don't behave.



Fragmentation, however, seems unlikely. There is a broad devotion to the idea of the mighty Indian union and its democratic form, and even if Mrs Gandhi's centre cannot hold the union is unlikely to fall apart.

Local troubles are self-sealing rather than infectious. The crises of Assam and Punjab, for example, are contained, and remote from the majority of people in a vast land. The dismal experience of the emergency left Indians more politically aware and convinced of democracy's value. India is also fortunate in having an army free of political ambition.

The papers reveal a country of continuous clamour, of striking imbalances and contradictions. Westerners sometimes romanticize Indian rhythms and values, but Indians themselves are more practical and honest and recognize that theirs can be a cruel and appallingly unjust society. They are their own fiercest critics, railing against their apartheids, repression, feudalism, slavery, jails filled with rotting forgotten prisoners and the terrible pressures of a rapidly growing population on hard-pressed land and resources. It is almost unnecessary to mention something as ingrained and rife as corruption.

There is not much social conscience, and one is struck by a certain heartlessness and selfishness. Life here can be a scramble and a jungle. People don't wait, they shove. When the firemen arrived at some burning shops near my home, the shopkeepers competed with bribes to have hoses turned on their shops first. I have seen people attacked by police *lathis* while onlookers hooted with mirth.

For all the corrosives and contradictions, there are great strengths and stabilizers in Indian society. There are aspects of caste which are abhorrent: it institutionalizes cruelty and discrimination. But caste, like religion and the emphasis on family, clan and hierarchy, is part of India's backbone.

In his caste a man may find identity, companionship, wife, job, political allegiance, prejudices and code for living. It is his shield in an unequal world.

So, too, is his family, for Indians live in close family groups ruled by respected patriarchs. It is the family that provides the welfare, that even does much of the nursing in hospital. Nepotism is duty rather than sin.

Most marriages are arranged by parents and most children like it that way. Marriage and family are too important to be threatened by the uncertainties of love, choice and youth. The marriage advertisements in the weekend newspapers provide a remarkable insight, dealing as they do with practical matters like income, height and peculiarities of prospective brides and grooms. "Bride wanted for handsome boy. Has weak eyes but owns posh house." "Bride for Sikh, no turban, but keeps beard neatly trimmed." "Groom for 158 centimetre aristocratic wheatish-complexion girl with touch of whiteness near nails of hands and feet, but on no other place of body. Father top bank executive..."



The extended family has its tensions, but compensations, too. Divorce is rare, partly because expectations of bliss are lower than in the west, because society is male-dominated and because, with family honour, harmony and property at stake, there is greater support at times of marital friction. But things do go wrong and disgruntled parents sometimes harass their daughters-in-law, and may even set fire to them.

Widows can have a hard time because they are thought to bring bad luck. Superstition is important and cannot be overlooked. Astrology is taken seriously and not much of importance happens in India without the starmongers getting in on the act.

The intertwining of caste, religion and astrology underpin the acceptance of, and submission to, one's earthly lot, and hold the carrot of hope for improvement in the next life. The forces of caste and religion are part of the mechanism keeping the lower orders supine, which is one reason why India is unyielding granite for revolutionaries.

Indians love to talk about India and confess they find it baffling themselves. The paradoxes are abundant but have to be confronted, like the poverty, indifference and squalor and the grotesque displays of wealth at weddings. The well-off have a horror of poverty: its proximity encourages them to strengthen their walls of financial security. There is a western idea that India is mystic. In reality it is emphatically materialistic.

Its conflicts and contradictions arise not only from the heterogeneity of its peoples – myriad cultures, 15 official languages – but also from the inevitably uneven nature of its development. It occupies both the twentieth century and the Middle Ages. It has research institutes both for space rockets and for bullock carts.

But then India is a land where the western mind, at least, has to adjust to amazement. Bandit chiefs surrender to Government ministers at public ceremonies, the equivalent of a Cockney robber giving up his sawn-off to Mr Whitelaw at Wembley Stadium.

Indians are justly proud of their country and of its achievements since independence, although some of these are threatened by the problem of population growth, which has not been seriously addressed and casts a deep shadow. They are touchy about criticism and sometimes rub western fur the wrong way by seeming complacent about the cruelties of their country, and for being ready to hurl stones from their crystal houses. But in these things, as in clerkly inefficiency, Micawberism and temporizing, they are merely like most other people.

India offers insults to the senses and sensibilities, and provides profound pleasures for them, too. It makes its daily impact on eyes, nose, ears and stomach. There is heat and dust; there are also mangoes and cool rain.

To be in India is to experience a fortunate adventure, an opportunity to witness a massive struggle for improvement and a dramatic experiment in mass democracy, to observe advances as well as India's shrinking illusions. There has been no dull day, and India has left its vivid imprints.

One day there were insects crawling in the breakfast cereal and I asked the cook to throw it away, along with the packet. In a land where there is little waste, he was scandalized.

"I used to work at British High Commission," he said, "and always the cornflakes are having insects. So we take them onto roof, spread them on sheet and when the sun is hot the insects run away. Then we give cornflakes to the sahibs."

Singer and poet Gil Scott-Heron is an incisive spokesman for black America

Satire in search of a dream

Few visitors to Washington DC overlook the irony of black slums stretching back for miles behind the White House. The contrast makes the town a particularly appropriate home for America's leading black satirist and propagandist, Gil Scott-Heron, who is currently performing a series of three concerts at the Commonwealth Institute in London.

His scathing attacks on the American Establishment, half-sung and half-spoken, are backed by a fusion of black and Hispanic musical styles. The power of his vitriol and the infectiousness of his music have won him as many white fans as black.

Politically, Scott-Heron describes himself as a member of the Common Sense Party. Joining any organized group, he suspects, "tends to alienate you from the people you're trying to inform. And I'm an educator, not an organizer".

His manifesto is most tellingly delivered in a song called "B-Movie," written 10 days after Ronald Reagan's inauguration, a witheringly contemptuous but often hilarious look at the system which allowed the Actor-President to be elected by 26 per cent of the registered voters.

Scott-Heron was born in Chicago in 1949, his father a former professional soccer player from Jamaica. His first 13 years were spent with his grandmother in Jackson, Tennessee, where he learnt the blues, his central musical influence. When he moved to New York it was to live in the Puerto Rican district with his mother, a librarian. There he imbibed both urban poverty and street-corner salsa music. Stretching his lanky, languid frame, he explains that this experience "is what made me the tallest Puerto Rican blues singer in the world".

Scott-Heron interrupted his undergraduate studies (at Lincoln University, Pennsylvania) to publish two novels – *The Vulture* when he was 19, and then *The Nigger Story*. It was during this period, back in Manhattan in the late 1960s, that he began to combine the old traditions of New York – jazz and poetry – with newer musical and verbal forms.

After completing his BA, Scott-Heron took a Masters degree in American literature at Johns Hopkins University, bringing him to Washington, where he still lives with his wife and daughter. As his performing career blossomed in the mid-1970s he maintained a post teaching creative writing at the University of the District of Columbia.

Adrian Boot



Scott-Heron: "I'm an educator, not an organizer"

He attributes the failure of the black radical movement in the United States to the attempts of talented organizers, particularly the leaders of the Black Panthers, to become educators and leaders too. "Huey Newton and Bobby Seale were not philosophers. Their basic premise was self-defence. But when people started to ask them for a philosophy, they reached for that dialectic and this abstract. It confused more than solidified what their principles were. In America, you don't have to justify self-defence. The principle is simply 'I ain't gonna let these people walk over me any more.'"

Despite his reputation and his growing success, Scott-Heron has his critics, characterized by one reviewer who, perhaps unkindly, compared him to "a youth leader laying down the right line". He replies that he was the originator of many of those "right lines".

"We did a song about nuclear power six years before Three Mile Island," he says. "We did an anti-drug song, 'Angel Dust', at a time when other American groups were still pushing drugs on kids. We did a song called 'H2Ogate' 18 months before Nixon resigned. We did 'Johannesburg' before Soweto."

But Scott-Heron's satire – "my main tool" – defies easy ideological categorization. For, as he points out, "if music is universal, so is laughter".

Nick Rosen

Mixed doubles in the name game

MOREOVER . . . Miles Kington

I don't know who is in charge of making up the names for international tennis stars, but he does a grand job. Reading the results of the Portuguese Open on Monday was a sheer pleasure, what with Mats Wilander beating Libor Pimek to get to the final, and Yannick Noah beating Jose Higueras. Even better was the men's doubles final, between Carlos Kirmayr and Cassio Motta, and Pavel Slozil and Ferdi Taygan. Kirmayr and Cassio Motta have the overtones of a couple of cocktails, with Pavel Slozil reminding me more of an East European plum liqueur, but on the whole these are genuine original names, and their inventor is to be congratulated.

But then he has been around a long time, assuming he was also responsible for Wojtek Fibak and Vijay Amritraj, Vitas Gerulaitis and Guilermo Vilas, Jose-Luis Clerc and Ilie Nastase – and was it he or his father who invented the name which first attracted my attention to tennis, Jaroslav Drobny? Only in the English-speaking field has he occasionally been banal, with Stan Smith, Jimmy Connors and Arthur Ashe, though even there he has tried hard, with names such as Roscoe Tanner. And his run of luck in the 1960s with macho Australian names was impressive: Ken Rosewall, Lew Hoad, Rod Laver, Tony Roche. Spot on.

Tennis stands supreme as a provider of names, rivalled only by classical conducting. (Otto Klemperer, Antal Dorati, Geza Anda, Carlo Maria Giulini, Simon Rattle, Zubin Mehta – they could all be fine tennis players, with Radu Lupu a dead cert for the men's doubles.) Motor racing is the only one which ever comes near it, with its curious penchant for mixed nationalities: Emerson Fittipaldi and Carlos Reutemann, for instance.

British soccer, by contrast, is pathetic when it comes to the provision of names, with the plethora of Garys and Kennys, Trevors and Bobbys. Robson, Nicholas, Francis, Neal, Wilson, Moore – can we really do no better than this? I sometimes suspect that footballers are allowed to retain their real names, despite the occasional flash of a Luther Blissett or Simon Stainrod, which shows that the odd good invention is getting through.

It is only a short step from here to pointing out that British tennis suffers from the same desperate lack of creativity. Does British tennis not avail itself of the service that provides names for everyone else? That is the only explanation I can think of for the presence in the past of Mark Cox, Roger Taylor, John Lloyd and Sue Barker, and in the present of no one in particular. When have the British ever produced a name like Evonne Goolagong or Martina Navratilova? No wonder Wimbledon cannot produce a British winner. It isn't the coaching at fault. It's the names.

With this in mind, Moreover Enterprises intend to sponsor a summer camp for future British tennis stars. Anyone can apply, as long as they have a match-winning name. Already we have one or two talented youngsters coming through, such as Bentwood Tarquin, Jerome Barrington-Oyster, Kelp Chinster, Wilson Slazboys and Fletcher Henderson.

On the girls' side, we have already enrolled Kim Burlington-Danes, Anaesthesia Rattle, Malvina Cortois, Euphorbia Stakeleys and Blossom Rossini. Their tennis can come later – anyone can learn to play tennis – but their names are winners already. I look forward to hearing from others.

That this is not an idle pipe-dream is shown by further study of last Monday's *Times*. Under the Portuguese tennis report by Rex Bellamy there is a dispatch by Lewine Mair (at least our tennis writers have fitted themselves out with good names) on the British junior championships, and I am delighted to see that she gives pride of place to the champion British girl, Shelley Walpole. Shelley Walpole! There's a name to beat the world with. I wish I had made it up myself.

Next week in SPECTRUM:
Two extracts from Robert Fisk's *In Time of War* reveal Churchill's plan for Irish unity and Hitler's strategy for the invasion of Ireland

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 39)

ACROSS
1 Arouser (7)
5 Moist (5)
8 Needle hole (3)
9 Sugar (7)
10 Marketplace (5)
11 Pierce (4)
12 Made of clay (7)
14 Introduces wrongly (13)
16 Corneal scar (7)
18 Sway (4)
21 Witch's oath (5)
22 Noisy party (7)
23 Down wind (3)
24 This day (5)
25 Shreds (7)

DOWN
1 Border (4)
2 Tribunal (5)
3 Awkwardly (13)
4 Manorial steward (5)
5 Car seat attachment (4, 9)
6 Water bird (7)
7 Identify disease (8)
13 Kitten (5,3)
15 Goaded (7)
17 Property (5)
19 Nucleus (5)
20 Historical periods (4)

SOLUTION TO No 38
ACROSS: 1 Podium 5 Poetry 8 Ago 9 Heaven 10 Strict 11 Gnat 12 Gorgeous 13 Terror 15 Cavity 17 Ghanaian 20 Neat 22 Rustic 23 Sought 24 Ult 25 Stayer 26 Afeard
DOWN: 2 Odeon 3 Inviter 4 Manager 5 Poser 6 Eyrie 7 Recount 14 Exhaust 15 Canasta 16 Venture 18 Natty 19 Incur 21 Abhor
(Solution to No 39 on Monday) The dictionary recommended is the New Collins Concise

هكذا من الاهل

FRIDAY PAGE

The Boss behind Honeybunch

In the bullet-proof parsonage where Eileen Paisley helps to pen her husband's fighting words, new red roses and old love letters keep romance alive

She calls him Honeybunch or My Sunshine and he calls her The Boss. Even after 26 years of marriage they can hardly bear to be parted and will telephone each other on the slightest excuse from the other side of the world; or he will send a dozen red roses. They are as much in love as when they were eager young minister and church typist snatching moments alone in a draughty manse.

They live in a tree-lined Belfast suburb in an imposing house with an armed police checkpoint in the drive and 30ft rocket screens at the bottom of a garden guarded by a fierce concrete gnome.

They are, of course, the Rev Ian Paisley and his remarkable wife Eileen, who opened the back door to me after a few minutes careful observation through one-way security glass. All doors are reinforced with a thick layer of bullet-proof armour.

A smile spread as she recalled her first meeting with her husband 33 years ago: "I was only 17 and right from the start Ian was the most romantic of men. For him it was love at first sight and he proposed on our third date."

After proposing Mr Paisley was kept waiting on his knees, speechless for perhaps the only time in his life: "I was so surprised I just sat there for a minute or two in silence. He had really swept me off my feet. I don't know what I saw in him, it was just there.

He always sent me flowers and love letters, which I still have. In the letters he wrote not so much poetry, not rhyming poetry, but some very nice things." In the large comfortable sitting room with its piano, electric organ and family Bible, pictures of the couple smile down from the walls.

"Ian was so sure we should get married, everything was always so clear to him. He had dates before but people usually date around at first. When he was away a lot on missions I never went out with anyone else like the other girls, though I doubt if any of the boys would have risked going out with Ian's girl.

"Our love has really grown from that time and Ian is one of the most sensitive of men. It would be not going too far to say we are inseparable. We have a great marriage–and to think I imagined I was going to be just a country clergyman's wife!"

Instead she has been shot at, blown up and even stoned: "When I was a Belfast City councillor I went to open some new council houses and there was a republican demonstration. It was crazy, I had just voted against their rents going up; but they were so angry that the security men said we should sneak out the back way. Not in my city, I said. We faced them and I was hit five times and came home with bruises. It was like something from the Bible."

She has been caught in cross-fire while driving home after a meeting and has seen the sickening aftermath of many bombs. "After one particular bomb I could not hear for a week."

"They have said if they cannot get my husband they will get me, especially after Maire Drumm, the IRA leader, was killed. But I believe we are mortal until God's work is done and obviously he has more for us to do. They just missed Ian once and I do worry when he goes out.

"But it's no use running to the bank every morning to see if your money is still there. I put myself and my family in God's hands. If I lost them all I would still think it part of His plan." She now works so closely with her husband in his roles as MP for North Antrim, church leader and head of the Democratic Unionist Party, that she could continue if anything happened to him. It is all very homely as one sinks into the large family sofa, but appearances can be deceptive and I started to have the same uneasy feeling as in my dentist's well-appointed waiting room. Whatever Eileen Paisley says about her Honeybunch, his violent words have been the overture to each new cycle of the present troubles, words which this mild-mannered Belfast matron helps to write.

The very name Paisley can inspire loathing from even the most moderate. "He is a rabble rouser", Lord Soper told his fellow peers after a Paisley rally. "He has a raucous approach and a dogmatic gesture. He is duping a lot of simple people." The Methodist leader, with uncharacteristic venom, described Paisley's academic award from the Bob Jones University of South Carolina as "a self-inflicted doctorate".

And the pictures of Protestants grimly drilling on windy hillsides as part of the MP's sinister Third Force, each with a current firearm certificate, do not exactly smack of Christian charity. But to Eileen Paisley her husband can do no wrong. She is as loyal as Caesar's wife, and far more able.

She smiles when I tell her a fellow Protestant described her relationship with Ian as Duty and The Beast. "He would laugh at that one, he has a great sense of humour. But quite honestly the best way I can serve Ulster at the moment is by helping him and having been a councillor I can take a lot of weight off his shoulders." She works in his Stormont office on everything from drafting speeches to visiting the bereaved.

Eileen recently took her husband's place in an anti-IRA "truth crusade" to America when he was refused entry. A grocer's daughter, and educated at a formidable Belfast institution called Miss Elliott's, she took the tour in her stride.

The couple begin and end every day praying out loud and Eileen talks to God while driving the car or dusting: "People think God is an austere man with a big whip to keep us down. But he is the God of love, or he would not have sent His son to die for us. If someone said to me 'Let one of your sons die for the sins of Ulster' I would not do it."

They have five children, Sharon, 25, Rhonda, 23, who is studying art in America, Cherith, 17, and twins Kyle and Ian, 16. "We are not strict and this place is open house to their boyfriends and girlfriends. I would be disappointed if one of them suddenly joined the Communist Party but it would be no use saying no."

There was little evidence of Marxist leanings in the TV room. Ian was reading a devotional book while Kyle and Cherith were watching a Cliff Richard film. "Their father likes cowboys best and we tape them for him; his favourite is *True Grit* with John Wayne. He loves to be home." The Paisleys neither smoke nor drink alcohol.

There political and religious crusades around the world are reflected in a magpie collection of bric-a-brac from four continents. Wooden crocodiles bask in the fire place, in the hall is a kangaroo skin from Australia, jewelled elephants from India bound across bazaar tables and on the wall is a collection of spoons from just about everywhere. There is a Victorian exuberance about the house which transcends taste: "Ian has phoned me from all of those places", adds Eileen, proudly.

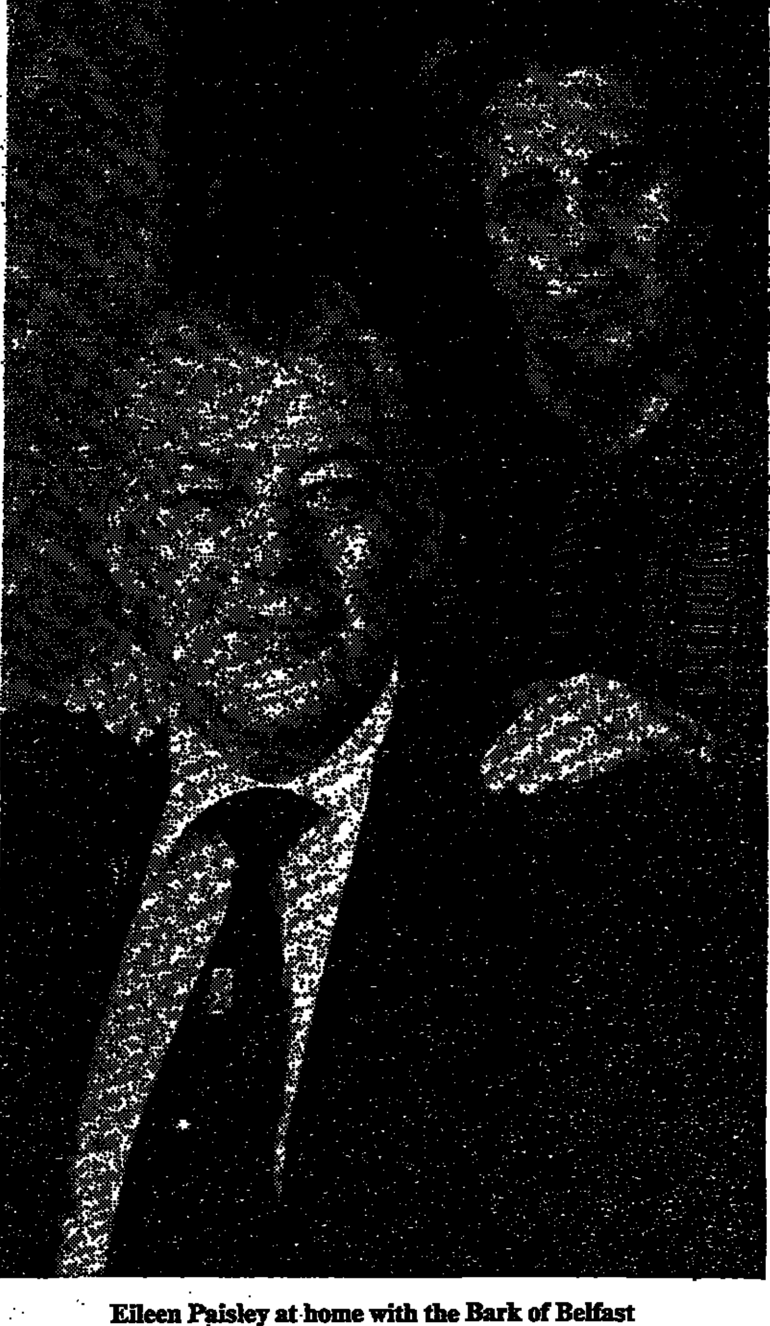
Indeed, he rang at that moment from London to inquire about the health of his 13-year-old Afghan hound Jason, who is at the vet's.

"My husband has been called a fanatic because he feels the strength of what he is saying. He has a big thunderous voice and it must be loud; it would not work if it were soft", she says.

His strength of oratory comes in part from trusting in God but also from the honey and cider vinegar Eileen makes him take every morning, in case his throat gets dry. "Where would Ulster's guard dog be without his bark?" quipped a Belfast cabbie. No doubt he would manage somehow, but he would be completely adrift without the quiet help of Eileen Emily Paisley.

Paul Pickering

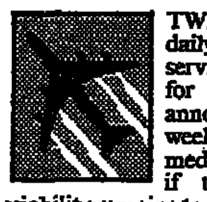
Martin Nangle



Eileen Paisley at home with the Bark of Belfast

MEDICAL BRIEFING

When jet lag has no chance



TWA's plan to run a daily round-trip service to New York for business men, announced last week, makes good medical sense even if the commercial viability remains to be seen.

Dr Frank Preston, director of British Airways Medical Services, reminds us that the health advantages of a short stop-over have been a selling point for Concorde since BA first used it for their own there and back in a day service six years ago.

During such a short visit, he says, the body just does not have time to come under the influence of the new time zone. The visitor stays at British time and is capable of maintaining peak performance in business meetings.

Decide to stay over, however, and Dr Preston recommends a more cautious approach. It is essential, he says, for anyone attending an important meeting to give him or herself one or two days before starting work. The best course: arrange to arrive in the evening local time, refuse all offers of hospitality and go to bed with a mild sleeping tablet.

Just a thought



Since the outbreak of the mysterious disease which is still gripping the Israeli occupied West Bank, doctors have been puzzling over two different questions. What caused the outbreak in the first case, and why has it spread so quickly and affected so many people? Political tension has added to their difficulties. Whether the underlying cause can be traced to bottles found at the school where the first girls were taken ill remains to be seen.

One hypothesis put forward to explain the rapid spread of the illness is "mass hysteria", which can be understood if you think in terms of ideas which affect behaviour being transmitted from person to person.

Mass hysteria in the twentieth century has tended to involve groups of young women as schoolgirls, with food poisoning as a common suggested cause. An example of the difficulty of diagnosing mass hysteria followed an outbreak of an unusual feverish illness at the Royal Free Hospital in London in 1970. Nurses were affected and some doctors thought it must be an infection because a number of patients had swollen lymph glands, though an infectious agent was never isolated. Others decided it must have a psychological origin, even though young children who would be normally unlikely to mimic symptoms were also affected. Most likely, it was a mixture of the two.

Wheezy ease



Instead of viewing the summer with grim anticipation, hayfever sufferers can now look forward to relief from their symptoms without being condemned to a season under sedation.

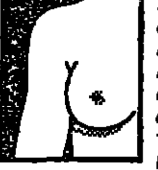
More than two and a half million people in Britain get wheezy and itchy and develop a runny nose in spring and summer because they are allergic to pollens in the air. When the pollens are inhaled the sufferers' bodies release abnormally high levels of histamine, and this chemical causes the symptoms.

Until recently those who wanted to drive, needed to work heavy machinery or simply had to be alert for business or exams were forced to suffer because the only drugs available to combat the histamine also caused drowsiness.

Now, however, two antihistamines which cannot get into the brain, and hence are without sedative side effects have been developed.

The drugs, Triludan from Merrell Pharmaceuticals and Hismanal from Janssen Pharmaceuticals, are available on prescription from a doctor. Triludan, in tablet form for adults and children over six, was launched last year. From this month a suspension of the drug for youngsters who find that easier to take is also available. Hismanal, marketed just in time for this year's hayfever season, can be prescribed only for adults and children over 12.

Bristol fashion



Breast-feeding mothers who come across the latest device to help them artificially express their milk can be assured that it was designed with their interests at heart\ despite its tongue in cheek name.

American-born designer William Sponsel, who is a medical student at Bristol University, has called his invention the Bristol Breast Pump. He says he wanted to acknowledge all the help he and his family have received from staff at Bristol. "I just thought it was appropriate that everyone should share in it if it caught on."

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser

Sleeping pills: the doses and the dangers

A young death that broke no law

On January 31, the day that her mother was due back from a fortnight's holiday, seventeen year old Louisa put the finishing stitches in a tapestry cushion cover which was to be a welcome home present and made sure that part of a coffee cake she had baked was set aside for the returning traveller. Some time too during that day she swallowed the Normison capsules that killed her.

Her mother, Theo, may never know the name of the doctor who prescribed these pills. It's probable that Louisa found her family doctor off duty, so it could have been any GP in Central London who, faced with a schoolgirl claiming rather frantically that she could not get a good night's sleep, reached for a prescription pad without paying much attention.

At the inquest, the coroner, Dr Paul Knapman, recording a verdict of misadventure, thought that Louisa had probably taken a small overdose to feign illness and so avoid going to school. Yet although the pathologist, Professor Keith Simpson, suggested that Normison was an unusual drug to prescribe for such a young girl, the coroner decided not to pursue the case further.

Professor Simpson agreed that it seemed unfair to pin the offence on any one doctor. He acknowledged that doctors tend to prescribe doses that are much too large, that such a highly-strung girl should perhaps not have been given *any* kind of drug but that such things are "wrong but not unlawful".

As things stand, anyone over sixteen can walk into any doctor's surgery and walk out again with a prescription with no questions asked, no tests taken.

Lonisa's family would very much like to identify the doctor, if only to prevent such a tragic accident happening to someone else's daughter, but the pill bottle through which both pharmacist and doctor could be traced has somehow vanished between hospital and laboratory and courtroom and Theo's two letters to the coroner pleading for the return of the bottle have so far, remained unanswered.

In the normal way of things Louisa would not have fitted Professor Simpson's description "highly-strung" but the weeks before her death were not in the normal way of things. She was in the throes of intense revision for her forthcoming A-level examinations in History and Biology, a time, according to her friends at St. Paul's Girls' School, when sound judgment is suspended.

"It could have been any one of us," one school friend told Louisa's mother. "You reach a stage when the world revolves around the history essay you've failed to deliver."

This group of girls, like Louisa, had given up serious boyfriends and any kind of a social life and the desperate concentration on exams may have added to the panicky atmosphere. Yet photographs, like the one on this page, taken just a few weeks before Louisa died, show a beautiful, laughing girl who is very much her normal, extrovert self.

Louisa's schoolfriends shared her problem of sleeping badly and their condition was summed up by St Paul's High Mistress, Heather Brigstocke, who told Louisa's mother: "Adolescence is a disease." Indeed, the lack of sleep and consequent nerviness may have made Louisa feel genuinely ill.

Theo said: "We're a very close family, anyone could tell you that. We all love one another, we never have rows. But because Louisa was getting a bit snappy about her homework, I thought it would be more fun for her to be with Elizabeth, her older sister, while I was on holiday."

Twenty-three year old Elizabeth, a former head girl of St Paul's, moved back home to stay with Louisa and was firm but sympathetic towards her youngest sister, who seemed to take rather a lot of time off school, saying that she felt sick.

After three continuous days of absence, Elizabeth advised Louisa to see a doctor but not to get any pills. Like her mother, Elizabeth prefers natural remedies and the family medicine chest rarely has so much as a bottle of aspirin on its shelves. It was then that Louisa, finding her own doctor unavailable, went elsewhere and returned with the Normison. Elizabeth thinks that she kept quiet about this "because she probably thought I'd be cross".

The following Monday, Louisa pleaded sickness again and Elizabeth pointed out that their mother, on her return that evening, would be upset by this skiving. But Louisa rang the school, explained that she was not well and went back to bed. Before shutting her bedroom door, she told Catherine, the daily help, that she was very tired and wanted to sleep in.

When her body was discovered early that evening, she was rushed to St Stephen's Hospital in the Fulham Road, where a doctor, on seeing there was nothing to be done, said, "These seventeen year olds; it's happening all the time."

Theo thinks that the most likely thing is that Louisa was desperate for a good sleep. "She was a very spontaneous girl and didn't think things through. It's so easy at that age to lose a proper sense of judgment. She behaved thoughtlessly, foolishly, impetuously and really very, very stupidly but she had this weapon – a potentially lethal drug – which she didn't understand."

Penny Perrick

Dafydd Jones



Louisa: anguish behind a carefree smile

TALKBACK

The bright side

From Mrs Sheila Utting, 21 Curzon Place, Eastcote, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 2TQ.

With reference to Mrs Doreen Darby's letter (Talkback, April 8) may I offer advice to the millions of readers who suffer from distressing but not life-threatening complaints.

I spend four days each week incapacitated by migraine and it is easy to lie in the dark swamped by self pity. The way to tolerate the kind of life imposed by my own problem is to concentrate on the quality of the three days in which I am well.

To focus on the days, hours, even minutes when free from pain or suffering can give a more positive and beneficial outlook. Relaxation whilst in an attack is a positive action – it may be difficult to achieve but the attempt itself is worthwhile for success brings a sense of achievement.

I find inspiration and comfort in the memory of the late Sir Barnes Wallis who, speaking on radio, said that one third of his life had been given up to migraine – how much he achieved in the remaining two thirds!

Mentally we have to be strengthened by overcoming the problems caused by adversity. Maybe we can be the ones who will inspire others.

Friendly mistletoe

From E. C. L. Butler, 30 Mayfair, Post Hill, Tiverton, Devon EX16 4NQ.

In the letter (Talkback, March 26) Drs Anderson and Phillipson quote from your Modern Times column of March 24 "mistletoe is good for headaches". They point out that "mistletoe contains at least four classes of particularly nasty compounds". It is generally recognised that the berries from this plant are not to be used so one assumes that the writers were referring to the leaves. Jean Palaiseul, a French naturalist writing in *Grandmother's Secrets*, a recent Pelican book, says that mistletoe was in olden days used medicinally as the standard antispasmodic and was particularly recommended for persons suffering from high blood pressure. He adds that modern research has shown that it is an excellent natural remedy for arteriosclerosis and high blood pressure because of its action on the vaso-motor nervous system and that it is therefore included in various patent medicines; also that it features in a method of cancer treatment known as "viscum therapy" which originated in Switzerland. A German publication states that mistletoe should be gathered between October and December or in March or April and agrees generally with M Palaiseul.

It would be interesting to have further comments from those with a scientific knowledge of the subject.



THE TIMES DIARY

Lower the boom

Concorde, the superjet, is going into the package holiday business. Only on Wednesday night the plane starred in BBC 2's *QED*, which breathlessly followed a first-class supersonic flight to New York, but now Thomson Holidays has completed a deal with British Airways to use Concorde to carry package holiday tourists to or from Cairo. The package, with one flight by more pedestrian jet, will cost about £900 for 14 days' half-board, and will be a feature of Thomson's Winter Sun brochure to be launched in May.

British Airways itself is using the plane for a two week tour of the United States in August which it is billing as the "ultimate holiday" but *for that even the cost is spectacular:* £8,000.

Paxton Americana

The Americans are after another bit of our heritage, the Crystal Palace, 47 years after it was burnt to the ground. They want to rebuild it in Dallas. Just as the original palace was used at the Great Exhibition of 1851 to display the miracles of the industrial revolution, the Dallas version is intended to house computers. There will have to be some modifications. Air conditioning will be installed, instead of central heating, and the glass will be darkened to reflect the Texan sun. The American architects have sought advice from the Crystal Palace Foundation, formed four years ago to study the history of the palace, about the technical details of Sir Joseph Paxton's design. The foundation's chairman, Barry McKay, says: "We are amazed and delighted that anyone should want to rebuild it. It is going to cost them forty million dollars".

Costly move

David Pearce, secretary of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, was at a planning appeal yesterday about the future use of the society's own headquarters, a listed and, the staff insist, pretty ancient, building in Great Ormond Street.

The SPAB is moving to a fully restored eighteenth century building in Spitalfields, which is to be opened on May 24 by Tom King, the Environment Secretary. It has put its Bloomsbury property on the market, but Camden council had refused an application for some of the offices to be turned to commercial use. Unless yesterday's planning appeal succeeds, the society fears it will not be able to finance its new headquarters, for which an appeal for funds has already been launched.

● *Arriving from Vienna at Heathrow Terminal 1, Jan Morris, the travel writer, put 50p into a change machine to make a telephone call. In exchange she got three Maltese and two Irish coins. She used one of the Maltese coins to phone me, and used the others to ring home to Wales.*

On the scent

Readers have again fulfilled my faith that they know everything. My story of the Australian underground orchid, first recorded 1982, then thought extinct and now rediscovered by satellite, received several ready explanations. Admittedly a few of you were as puzzled as I was, especially when in the paper the word "extinct" appeared as "exciting". This makes it less easy to complain that in the report I was referring to the year of the orchid's discovery, 1928, had been printed "*1982*". John May of Steyning *tells* me the satellite concerned is the American Landsat D, whose data identified the undisturbed bushland where the orchid might be found. The orchid has pale pink, vanilla scented subterranean flowers and it is still a mystery how it pollinated. Dr Richard Warren of Edinburgh supplied the plant's botanical name, *Rhizanthella gardneri*, and the fact that its discovery was reported in the Proceedings of the Royal Society of South Australia, 1928. John Ainsworth of Manchester volunteered that there is another underground orchid – but I began to think people were trying to blind me with science.

Marking time

Somewhere between the crucifixion and the resurrection the electricity failed in Warsaw's Athenaeum Theatre and Alec McCowen's epic one-man recital of *The Gospel According to St Mark* was plunged into satanic darkness. McCowen had flown from London for the one-night performance to initiate a series of theatrical and musical events designed to thaw the freeze in Anglo-Polish cultural relations. One can forgive McCowen for wondering whether the Russians cut off the power, for sitting a few feet away in the front row was an actor who has made his reputation playing Lenin, to whom he bears a disquieting resemblance.



There is consternation at the Algonquin in New York, where Hamlet II, successor to the hotel cat immortalized in Val Schaffner's book, has been missing for three weeks. Coast-to-coast appeals in the press have brought calls from all over the States, but no cat. At first it was thought that Hamlet had gone for a stage career at the nearby Plymouth Theatre, "but they were only casting a kitten", says Andrew Anspach, the Algonquin's managing director. Another theory is that Hamlet eloped with a she-cat from the New York Yacht Club. If so it will be a platonic affair. Hamlet is neutered.

PHS

Animal abuse: the vets' dilemma

by David Coffey

A cascade of dubious concern over animal welfare has in recent years prompted the British Veterinary Association to manufacture more hardware for its war of political intrigue – namely more committees. Committees have examined the export of live animals for slaughter, the battery system and veal calves, with little noticeable effect on the welfare of the animals. Now a subcommittee is to consider laboratory *animals*; it is a safe prediction that it will do no more than tinker with the tinsel around the package of established practice.

A few years ago the animal welfare committee was conceived, presumably to coordinate the views of the various professional factions and to advise the BVA on welfare matters. This committee was no exception to the rule. Peopled by part-time politicians pushed into offfice, it has lamentably failed to fire the imagination.

It has, for example, given much tongue to the detrimental effects of airguns in the hands of small boys, while it has studiously ignored the adverse welfare consequences of shotguns manipulated by rather older lads.

The difficulty facing the profession results from its chronic condition – corporate schizophrenia. While it has always claimed to be principally interested in animal walfare it has in fact been subservient to its clients.

As long as there was no conflict between the farmer's expectations and that of the veterinary surgeon – healthy stock kept under traditional systems of management – the professional ethic remained unchallenged. Veterinary surgeons judged the welfare of their patients simply in terms of physical well-being, taking their psychological state for granted. Our understanding of the complexities of the animal mind has in recent years been greatly enhanced by the relatively new science of animal behaviour. This growing awareness has sadly been confounded by the technological revolution which has permitted, indeed encouraged, the intensification of animal management systems, on the farm and in laboratories, which ignore their psychological needs.

Our dilemma as veterinary surgeons is clear. Should we retain our professional status, subservient to the agricultural and pharmaceutical industries whose declared and sole objective is profit, and insure for ourselves a reasonable income? Or should we try to ascertain the limits of abuse to which animals can reasonably be subjected, in order to provide them with adequate welfare standards?

If, as I hope, we opt for the latter, it will be necessary to establish a general concept of animal welfare. While science can make important contributions, happiness, contentment, frustration and pain are important subjective experiences which cannot be objectively identified or quantified. Nevertheless most reasonable people would accept that such feelings probably exist in animals, as they would concede that animals feel hunger and the need for sexual fulfilment.

Some years ago a detailed report of a working party convened by the Very Rev Dr Edward Carpenter, Dean of Westminster, entitled "Animals and Ethics" was presented at a press conference. The compilers included eminent theologians, veterinarians, ethologists, agriculturists and members of the Animal Welfare Movement. While it would be foolish to pretend that this was the definitive concept of animal welfare it was certainly worthy of consideration. The presidents of both the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and the BVA haughtily declined to attend.

If the BVA wishes to be taken seriously as a participant in the discussion on animal welfare it has to assume more humility and consider the subject in much greater depth.

The veterinary profession has a fine record of service to animals, however hamstrung it may have been by the need to earn a living. Many members are well aware of, and subscribe to, the need to consider the psychological as well as the physical needs of domesticated animals or those kept in captivity, and they could make a considerable contribution to the general discussion. It will indeed be a shame for the profession as well as for the animals if that knowledge and concern is stifled, shackled and finally submerged by a small group of the profession's politicians whose real objectives and motivation are often obscure.

The author is a veterinary surgeon and former research officer at the Ministry of Agriculture.

Geraldine Norman on *the inside dealing* over the Sotheby's bid

Going but not quite gone to Cogan and Swid

Sotheby's have discovered a word to describe the absence of sympathetic understanding that is lacking between themselves and the unlikely named Americans Mr Cogan and Mr Swid, who are trying to buy the whole Sotheby empire for $100m.

It is synergy, defined by *Webster's* as meaning "combined action or operation (as of muscles or nerves)". Sotheby's say there is a lack of it between themselves and the American bidders.

Nerves, not to mention raw emotion, are showing in both camps as the Americans try to muscle in. Graham Llewellyn, Sotheby's chief executive, has been letting his passion show when speaking to the press in comments such as "we wouldn't recommend the offer at any price" or "I'll blow my brains out if they succeed". Julian Thompson, who was appointed UK chairman last year, and who knows more about Chinese porcelain than almost anyone else in the world, looks white and drained as he makes a superhuman effort to discuss the issue without emotion.

That is the picture in Sotheby's Bond Street headquarters where the serious conversation between small huddles of friends lapses into silence as a stranger walks by. Only two spokesmen are officially permitted to communicate with the outside world, one for the management and one for the staff.

About 130 of the expert staff in London have told the Americans, in a letter which seems to stem from very senior levels in the company, that a takeover would cause them "immediately to consider alternative employment". The management pressed this home when they met Cogan and Swid last Sunday, pointing out that experts might resign en masse and set up a new auction operation, collaborate with an existing auctioneer to build the business or leave individually and join rival dealers. So far no attempt seems to have been made to concert a strategy. Indeed one is quickly told of the legal barriers preventing employees forming a steering committee or, indeed, taking any action that might damage the business that employs them.

Half a mile away, in a rented suite in Park St, Marshall Cogan and Stephen Swid are visibly shaken by the freezing reception they have had from Sotheby's board and the ferocity with which the firm is fighting to keep them out.

"He's the smart guy. I'm the good looking one", says Swid, explaining the double act. "It is a matter of "Marshall and I think . . . ." or "Stephen and I decided . . .". They make it very clear that their bid for Sotheby's is not a matter of one company taking over another but a personal matter of two men who have seen a great international business in trouble and want the excitement of putting their own business talents to work to sort it out. "We're winners", they say, pointing to their success with Knoll International, a furniture making group.

This is where the lack of "synergy" comes in. Nobody had ever heard of Cogan and Swid before they announced the acquisition of a 14 per cent stake in Sotheby's last December. They are nice guys from middle America who take their jackets off and roll up their sleeves.

If only they were famous, and better connected, Sotheby's might be able to welcome them as collaborators in building the business. They would then have some "synergy" with the millionaire collectors, jet setters and ruined aristocrats selling off their heirlooms who constitute the clientele.

The language spoken by Cogan and Swid, American business jargon, cannot convey the concerns and approach of Sotheby's directors. Equally, the phraseology of Old Etonian aesthetic commercialism is not translatable into Cogan and Swid.

The two sides have clearly failed to understand each other from the start – whether purposely or not is unclear – and have each latched on to minor matters as a source of bitter resentment. The first meeting between the two sides took place in December. Sotheby's were represented by Gordon Brunton, the non-executive chairman whose real job is running International Thomson, Graham Llewellyn, Sotheby's chief executive and former head of the London jewel department, John Marion, chairman of Sotheby's American board, and Jesse Wolff, deputy chairman and lawyer in New York.

Sotheby's are particularly angry over a press statement issued by Cogan and Swid. This, Sotheby's bitterly aver, has caused the firm to lose consignments.

In contrast, Cogan and Swid bitterly complain of Sotheby's imposing a total ban in all countries where they operate on anyone concerned with the firm speaking to them. "Sotheby's experts do not accept items for sale without looking at them personally and making an assessment", Cogan and Swid complain. "None of the experts have been allowed to look at us."

Last Sunday Cogan and Swid met Sotheby's main board and sought to explain what a good deal they were offering Sotheby's staff, with special consideration for experts and profit-sharing incentives. They then asked for a private meeting with departmental experts.

As "working experts" they singled out Julian Thompson, John Marion, chairman of the American board, and Peter Wilson, chairman of Sotheby's from 1958 to 1980, the author and architect of its international success. Wilson now lives *in the south of France* and "helps to find business" from semi-retirement.

The Americans thus pointedly left out Graham Llewellyn, a long-standing expert and executive. The Three "chosen" men successfully urged the addition of Jim Lally, the American expert on Chinese art, to the group.

One gets the impression from Cogan and Swid that this group, were painfully aggressive and frank. But Wilson, "behaved like a true gentleman", say Cogan and Swid.

Those of us who have watched with awe the ruthless genius for fixing deals displayed by Peter Wilson over his 20-year run as chairman, and have fallen delighted victims to his charm, are entitled to ask: "What's up?"

Graham Llewellyn, Gordon Brunton and Julian Thompson of Sotheby's: no reserve.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

Urgent – put a cross for cockney Kate

Kate Losinska is your actual cockney sparrow (she gets her uncockney name from her Polish-born husband), standing about five feet and looking as though she weighs herself on a letter balance. Opinions differ as to what would happen if an armed murderer got into her home, intent upon doing her a mischief, when she was alone; some say she would break both his arms, while others declare that such a claim is quite preposterous, and insist that she would break both his legs as well.

Unfortunately, the enemies she faces are by no means so simple to deal with: she has been battling with them for nearly 20 years, and the battle shows no sign of ending, or even slackening in its intensity. For she leads the moderate forces in the Civil and Public Services Association (the largest of the Civil Service unions), and over the years control of the union has swung from side to side like a car with a drunken driver; sometimes the moderates have swept the board, and anon, at the next election, the same board has been swept by a coalition of forces drawn largely from the ranks of the Communist Party, the Militant Tendency and various Trotskyist *groupuscules* (the coalition calls itself the Broad Left).

It should not be supposed that the members of the CPSA are exceptionally volatile in their opinions. The problem is an old one in British trade unions: there is no individual postal ballot, and members may vote only at meetings. And as my readers have weary cause to know, union branch meetings are commonly packed by the tiny proportion of extremists, while the vast silent majority stays at home.

It cannot be good for the country, never mind the CPSA, to have extreme Marxists in control of a union which is so closely concerned in the work of government (some Ministry of Defence branches have nominated Communist Party and Trotskyist candidates for union office), but if that is what the union's members want, no democrat could wish to deny them their choice. Whether they do want it may perhaps be deduced from what happened at the meeting of the union's biggest branch, in the Newcastle Central Office of the Department of Health and Social Security; of 6,000 members, there were only 40 left at the meeting when it finally got to the nominations for the union's national excutive.

"The extremist Broad Left", says Mrs Losinska, "rely on our members' apathy to elect them by default", and that is precisely what happened at the last "general election" in the union, when the Broad Left gained control of the NEC *by a majority of 24-4;* the majority includes three members of the Communist Party and eight supporters of Militant, including the union's present president, Mr Kevin Roddy. (Mr Roddy, who is standing for president again, opposing Kate *Losinska herself,* does not seek to disguise his political affiliations, saying in his election address that he is a supporter of Militant and that "I have always proudly and openly declared where I stand". This could hardly be said by another member of the Broad Left slate, Mr Ray Alderson, who is standing for one of the two vice-president posts; in 64 lines of his appeal for election he cannot spare half a dozen words to mention that he is a member of the Communist Party. Nor does the Broad Left's main election leaflet do so – indeed, it carefully avoids mentioning any of the political allegiances of the coalition.)

The CPSA has always been, in the vital narrow sense, non-political; though many of its campaigns have obviously and inevitably been political in character, it has never, as a body, supported any particular party. The Broad Left wants affiliation to the Labour Party, which cannot be enacted under the union's present rules; they have therefore proposed that the annual conference (which they can control much more easily than the elections) *should change the rules to permit* such affiliation; they have already passed a resolution for affiliation to CND. No doubt many members of the CPSA support CND or vote Labour; whether even all of these, never mind the others, want the *union, for the first time in its* history, to be affiliated to such bodies, is another matter.

Anyway, before that interesting question is answered there is a more urgent one. The CPSA elections are now in progress, and some indication of the apathy of the majority can be gained from the fact that only one third of the union's 1,100 branches have so far indicated even that they are definitely going to hold ballot-meetings. In the *belief* that the majority of the members want leaders who will continue to strive for better pay, conditions and union electoral procedures while rejecting political extremism, and the *hope* that they can be induced to go to their branch meetings and vote for such leaders, *I* now print the list put forward by the National Moderate Group in the Civil and Public Services Association. (The numbers before the names on the list for National Executive Committee are those that will be found on the ballot papers).

For President (one vote): Losinska, Mrs K. M. For Vice-President (two votes): Chambers, Mrs M.; Pemberton, F. For National Executive Committee (twenty-six votes):

2. Scott-Anderson, Ms S.
12. Billouin, J.
16. Bruce, J.
17. Butcher, J.
18. Butterworth, G.
21. Carr, A.
23. Chambers, Mrs M.
28. Elliott, C. H.
35. Hepple, Mrs A.
36. Hickman, Miss M.
40. James, Mrs J. M.
45. Losinska, Mrs K. M.
49. Milnes, D.
50. Mylward, Mrs P.
51. Newall, A.
54. Parry, Mrs S.
56. Pemberton, F.
57. Poyntz, Mrs B.
58. Price, Mrs J.
61. Richards, K.
66. Simmonds, A.
69. Thomas, P.
71. Wilde, Mrs J.
72. Winkworth, P.
73. Womersley, Mrs P.
75. Wright, M. K. D.

Would members who wish to vote for the moderate slate please note that they should vote for Mrs Losinska for president and Mrs Chambers and Mr Pemberton for vice-president, but *also* for all three for the national executive, as a candidate defeated for senior office can still be elected onto the NEC.

Spitting into the wind is a thankless task; the best that can be hoped for from the exercise is an eyeful of spit. Nevertheless, spit I must. To cast a vote in an important election which is part of our *democratic process does not seem to* me to rank with the Labours of Hercules, even if the voter cannot do it sitting at home with his feet up but must go to a hall and be bored insensible for a couple of hours before he gets a chance to mark his card. Whether the members of the CPSA can be induced – by the hard work of Mrs Losinska and her allies or by my exhortation – to exercise their democratic right in their union's election I do not know. What I do know is that if enough of us fail to vote in enough elections we shall one day find that we no longer have any elections to vote in, and if the CPSA moderates, and my advocacy of their cause, are not sufficient to persuade the majority to turn out and vote, perhaps that thought may be.

David Watt

Putting Carter in perspective

"Come back Jimmy Carter. All – or at any rate nearly all – is forgiven." The fact that it has taken the chancelleries of Europe more than two years to set up this cry, in spite of the utter misery and dejection with which they contemplate the attitudes and accomplishments of Mr Reagan, may be considered some kind of measure of their disenchantment with the Carter regime at the end of its term. Nevertheless *I have noticed* a distinct softening of attitudes to the Carter record in recent months; and now along comes Carter's National Security Adviser, Zbigniew Brzezinski, to give another boost to the rehabilitation with his own account of what happened to American foreign policy between 1976 and 1980.*

It is an unusually fair and honest book, one of the best of its kind to be published in recent years, and it makes a good case for Carter. The prize exhibits are naturally the Camp David agreements, the Panama Canal treaties, the final normalization of relations with China and the Salt II treaty which, though never ratified, has at least been observed by both sides.

Brzezinski also claims credit for some developments which will be less universally acclaimed but which can at least be said to meet the Reaganite charge that Carter was "soft on Communism" – economic sanctions *against the Soviet Union* after Afghanistan, the reinjection of the American military presence into the Persian Gulf, the formation of the rapid deployment force and the reinvigoration of Nato.

For liberals he has not so much to show, but he offers Carter's real attempt to get to terms with the Third World and the double-edged claim that after the cynical politics of the Nixon/Kissinger era, Carter reidentified the US with certain basic ideals: "justice, equity, majority rule, self-determination and the dignity of the individual".

The personal portrait Brzezinski draws of Carter is also appealing. Inexperienced, certainly, with a streak of naivety. Also a poor public speaker and a mediocre manager, both in terms of American politics and of his own team. But highly intelligent, brave, loyal, a very able negotiator and genuinely high-principled.

What went wrong? Brzezinski doesn't really give us a specific reply – except of course "bad luck" which brought on the Iranian disaster and the hostages debacle in the last year of the President's term. Reading between the lines of his book, though, *it is possible to put together* some reasonable answers.

In the first place there was "bad luck" of a more fundamental kind than the fall of the Shah. Carter inherited an American public opinion that was "on the turn" between liberalism and conservatism, between optimism and pessimism, between excessive belief in detente with the Soviet Union and equally excessive rejection of it. After Watergate, the American people wanted idealism, which is why they elected Carter rather than Ford. But after Vietnam national pride was badly bruised and so idealism was required with a more brazen and nationalistic face than would have been necessary in the *1960s*.

Carter's style – technocratic and casually, almost diffidently, earnest – was quite unable to mould itself to these contours. His idealism was too easily caricatured as gullibility and his informality as weakness. But it was not only a matter of style and public relations. It was Carter's misfortune to find himself in an international situation that could *hardly have been more unfavourable* to his purposes. His instincts were constantly at war with the needs of world politics and often of domestic politics also.

Take human rights, for instance – *one* of the main planks of his platform. He rapidly found that in promoting this concept he not only wrecked his relations with the Russians, thus undermining the Salt process, but also upset a number of the Third World countries he was hoping to influence.

He was never able to evolve a satisfactory solution to the central problem of the Soviet Union. Should he regard Soviet behaviour in Africa or Central America as a bar to progress on disarmament? Should he play the "China card" and risk a worsening of East-West relations?

He vacillated, and indeed institutionalized this confusion in his foreign policy appointments. His heart, represented by his Secretary of State, Cyrus Vance, said "Push ahead with détente"; his head, represented by Brzezinski, said "Détente is all very well, but you must link Soviet behaviour in general with specific negotiations; and even if you don't, the American public and Congress will."

It is impossible to read all this without a feeling of deep depression for it confirms all the worst fears about the inability of the American system to cope with the problems of world leadership. The weakness of the American cabinet in relation to the presidency; the power of Congress; the multiplicity and force of special interest groups, such as the Zionist lobby; the volatility and ignorance of much of middle America over foreign policy issues – all this puts burdens on the President which require superhuman powers to bear.

Yet the electoral system and the power of the media ensure that presidential candidates under modern conditions *are not necessarily* chosen for their potential skill in managing the incredible complexities of the international world, far less imposing a coherent pattern on American foreign policy. Carter aspired to be a cross between Nixon and Kennedy, but he had neither Nixon's knowledge nor Kennedy's charisma.

Brzezinski himself believes that the only way to restore consistency and moderation is (a) to reorganize the institutions so that the National Security Adviser has a definite coordinating role in foreign policy on the same lines as the Director of the Budget and (b) to revive the post-war notion of a bi-partisan American foreign policy. But the first of these could have no more than marginal effects and the second, though infinitely desirable, would entail the abandonment of the right-wing ideology that is President Reagan's dominant political asset.

The answer must be good, moderate leadership. But where is it to come from? Brzezinski remarked in conversation recently that had Carter been prepared to bomb Tehran, even at the sacrifice of the *lives of the American hostages, he* might have won the election. He is probably right. And Carter was certainly right to refrain. But the price extracted by the electorate for his restraint will not exactly encourage others to follow his example. It is a bleak prospect.

*Power and Principle, *to be published by Weidenfeld and Nicolson.*

Philip Howard

Pardon, Noah, your ship is slowing

I'll say this for *Reader's Digest*: it pays its hacks well. An article for the *Digest* will keep the penurious freelance scribbler in brown bread and carbon paper for longer than one for most other publications. Even when it reprints some *bon mot* or other extract as one of those whimsical little footnotes at the bottom of the page, it pays both author and original publisher handsomely.

That apart, predigesting and shortening books for those who cannot be bothered to read a whole book has always seemed to me a philistine thing to do. This may be an intolerably elitist view: but a book is a book; some books are the finest products of the best minds of their generations; there are enough of such books to keep one reading; and one should pay a book and its author the respect of reading the whole works rather than a subbed-down version.

Undeterred by elitist disapproval, *Reader's Digest* is going ahead with the big one. This autumn it is bringing us an improved and abridged verion of the Bible. In the beginning was the Word. But the Word was too damned long, and too difficult, and busy people with important things to do could not be expected to plough through all those *longueurs* about who begat whom, and Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were, if you remember, the only two who ever got through to the Land of Milk and Honey.

The editors of *Reader's Digest* have managed to slim down the Old Testament by half, and the New Testament by a quarter, so that, according to the puff, "now you can read the Bible cover to cover," like a thriller rather than a Testament.

Jesus's own words have been reduced by about 10 per cent to eliminate repetitions; and when God becomes a bit prolix and boring in the Old Testament, the editors have just cut *him off. Pope Gregory* the Great said that the Bible is a stream wherein the elephant may swim and the lamb may wade. *Reader's Digest* has dammed it and *turned it into* a paddling-pool where donkeys may take a dip.

After all those animal metaphors, here is an example of the condensation from God's instructions to Noah about how to preserve the *animals* from the flood. In King James's version, he says: "Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch. And this is the fashion which thou shalt make it of: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits. . . And take thou unto thee of all food that is eaten, and thou shalt gather it to thee; and it shall be for food for thee, and for them."

This is the Digest's version: "You are to make an ark of gopher wood and cover it with pitch. Make it four hundred and fifty feet long, seventy-five feet wide, and forty-five feet high. . . Also take with you every sort of food, and store it up for you and them." It may not have the antique grandeur of King James's, which was drummed into the memories and the intellectual background of all children at school and on Sundays until recently. But it is certainly *clearer and shorter*.

I just hope they know what they are doing. Authors are notoriously touchy about having their pieces cut, as we see every day in the word-factory.

Who was it who said that it seemed odd, not so much that when God decided to write a book, he should write it in Greek; but that he should write the New Testament in such bad Greek? The Great Editor in the Sky left a stern warning to would-be subs and *digesters* in *The Revelation of St John the Divine* 22, 18: "If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book."

هكذا من الاصل



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TOWARDS STABILITY

Yesterday's cuts in the major banks' base interest rates were hardly dramatic. The fall was only half a point and had been predicted for some time. But they are particularly welcome because they mark the end of an unpleasant phase of uncertainty for Britain in the financial markets.

Lower oil prices were bound to lead to a relative fall in sterling, because they are more beneficial to the other major oil-importing industrial countries. Currency dealers took this as a signal for a large-scale assault on sterling, taking it well below a sensible level. At the same time, the future of the United States' monetary policy was deeply unclear, as the Federal Reserve Board agonized over whether it should raise interest rates in response to poor money supply figures. For the moment at least, these uncertainties have disappeared. The price of oil has stabilized. Sterling has stabilized and the Federal Reserve Board has decided not to act.

Lord Richardson, retiring governor of the Bank of England, and his American opposite number Mr Paul Volcker have both made it clear that they want to see interest rates much lower worldwide to encourage economic recovery and to help resolve the debt problems of newer industrial nations. But the wish is not enough. At home, both the City and the authorities are taking a cautious line. They expect base rates to fall only one further point in the rest of the year. That is one reason why the Bank of England delayed the latest fall until yesterday. It did not want interest rates to fall too fast for fear that they might rise later with damaging effects on confidence. Too steep a fall could upset the pound and jeopardize the Government's monetary targets. The first two months' money figures for the current year, added to the likelihood that this year's budget deficit may be higher than intended, do not yet leave much room for manoeuvre.

There is some historical evidence that interest rates reflect past inflation for long periods rather than any deeply perceptive forecasts for the future. The troubles of the international banking system, the running down of oil states' bank balances and the more cautious attitude of bankers, likewise all suggest that interest rates may stay too high for the good of the world economy as inflation falls.

The see-sawing currency markets also exert a malevolent influence. Although bank-fuelled speculation, which shifted from the European currencies to the pound has temporarily abated, it would be foolish to think that speculators will not soon settle on a new target. Raising interest rates remains the most effective short-term way for a government to defend its currency.

This can only change if governments consciously aim at greater stability as a goal in its own right, vital to trade and to business decisions. It was perhaps inevitable that the determined efforts of Britain, the United States and other countries to beat inflation and restore sound money would be bought at the expense of wildly fluctuating exchange rates and interest rates, with the two acting on each other.

Now that so much progress has been made on inflation, governments can pay more attention to these other variables, which are just as vital to the economy. The House of Commons Treasury committee is a little disingenuous to complain that the Government has no interest rate or exchange rate policy. It is impossible to target money, interest rates and the exchange rate at the same time. In the past four years, having exchange and interest rate targets would have implied abandoning a monetary policy. But there is some sense in the committee's charge. It is possible to aim at the most stable combination of the three, at the cost of some compromise on the purity of any one policy target. As the committee pointed out, wild swings in the value of the currency have more effect on the economy than the odd billion on or off the budget.

Greater stability in financial markets now offers better hopes for big cuts in interest rates than sound money on its own. The Bank of England has already moved in this direction, although it wisely did not try to prop up the pound against the flood of events.

The Williamsburg summit next month is now concentrating people's minds internationally on ways they can cooperate more effectively. Lord Richardson has said more clearly than ever that exchange rate stability should be an important world policy objective. Sir Jeremy Morse, chairman of Lloyds Bank, and Dr Henry Kissinger have now proposed interesting and realistic schemes. Japan's prime minister Mr Nakasone has lent his weight.

The summit itself may disappoint such hopes. But it could none the less achieve a great deal if the six smaller nations can persuade the United States to make a moral commitment not to raise interest rates from present levels. That would be the greatest single contribution to currency stability and lower world interest rates. It would also force the United States to take a more responsible attitude to its own budget in the interests of world recovery. For there can be no hope of lasting currency stability and cheap money unless all the major governments take great care to keep their own house in order and do not let any of the vital economic variables get out of control.

UNIFORM OPPORTUNITIES

A generation has passed since the cold winter of 1960 when the last conscript was inducted into the Army. For today's adolescents, National Service is a folk memory, barely remembered even by their parents. Khaki has been replaced by drab greens and the functional outfits of modern fighting men; the nation has relapsed into the ways of its history, holding the armed forces in regard, to be sure, but as a thing apart, a caste. Few homes now have direct contact with the forces by blood: our sympathies and common feelings are relayed and sometimes trivialized by radio, television and newspaper reports. So must it be with the professionalization of the military. Yet the new youth training scheme may be a small antidote now that it has been extended to the armed forces.

In small measure the annual flow of volunteers on twelve-month training placements might replace ignorance and synthetic knowledge with direct perception of the strengths and weaknesses of a peace-time fighting machine. The individuals training with the forces, young men and women, will surely benefit in a personal sense; but beyond that there may feed out into wider society an appreciation of the work of the armed forces at a level deeper than the celebratory, even adulatory, attitude produced by victory in the Falklands War.

The involvement of the Army, Navy and Air Force in providing training and work experience for the young unemployed is practical common sense. It is fitting that the announcement of the scheme fell to Mr Michael Heseltine, whose approval of a £1 million subsidy from his own department's funds is a generous gesture. Those close to the minister will remember that among his most enduring impressions from Merseyside in the weeks after Toxteth was not the physical dereliction but the pointlessness and emptiness – pointed out to his face in crude language on more than one occasion – of some of the Manpower Services Commission's schemes for the young jobless. Their limitations are not wholly the fault of the MSC which depends on employers for work experience. It has taken the country's biggest employer – the Government – far too long to realize that within the canyons of the bureaucracy, in the dockyards and in the museums there are many opportunities for practical experience.

The services offer some of the best opportunities. Within the armed forces there exists a magnificent machine for training raw youth. Without undue deviation from its essential purposes that machine can find room for driving instruction, electronics work, maintenance skills – as well as weapons training. The National Service generation is sometimes over fond of emphasizing the "character-building" aspects of its experience which at the time appeared to be exactly the opposite. But the forces have changed. Modern armies fight psych-war within as well as without and Mr Heseltine's provision for a 14-day period of "notice" seems sensible and fair. There are at present some seven applicants for each Army vacancy; the 5,200 places on the new scheme are likely to be over-subscribed.

Politicians' talk of the scheme's anticipating compulsory enlistment of the young unemployed is nonsense. Other objectors – within the military – should pause, too. There will of course be hesitation over budgets raided and the loss of elasticity that might occur when seasoned trainers are redeployed on the difficult task of knocking inner-city adolescents into shape in a short space of time. But in the medium run there is a bonus.

Britain's reserves are limited. Without conscription the forces' back-up is considerably less than in other Nato countries. Young men and women with twelve months military training and discipline under their belts will not immediately convert into soldiers or sailors in some future emergency, but they would provide a cadre of half-trained manpower. If during their stints they have acquired a habit of self-reliance and a willingness to respond to a national call to arms then they could form the basis of a reserve force in depth.

Donnish dalliance

From Mr C. R. K. Perkins

Sir, I find it strange that Richard Holmes, commenting (feature, April 2) on John Donne's Good Friday poem, should say: "It is difficult to imagine him stopping his horse to study the primroses in the Welsh woodlands."

He must know that at Montgomery Castle, his destination in April, 1613, Donne did, in fact, write another poem based on his close observation of a field of primroses, "where their form, and their infinity, make a terrestrial galaxy".

True, he characteristically takes the flower in its various forms as representative of woman and not as an emblem of springtime renewal; but to suggest that he was by nature indifferent to nature is less than fair.

Yours faithfully,
C. R. K. PERKINS,
47 Moorend Park Road,
Cheltenham,
Gloucestershire.
April 7.

Desirable residence

From Sir Donald Tebbit

Sir, It is disappointing that your unnamed Foreign Staff's article on diplomatic housing ("The Empire stikes back for the good life", April 6) should have been tailored for the gallery in the usual superficial way.

The choice is not a simple one between selling diplomatic palaces and making huge savings, on the one hand, and maintaining personal luxury at high cost, on the other. Many prestigious British diplomatic residences were acquired cheaply, either through timely purchase or through good will and generosity, sometimes outright gift, on the part of overseas governments. It is quite unrealistic to suppose that properties which were given to Britain, or put into British hands on favoured terms, would be permitted to be flogged for a fortune on the open market. In many cases they could in practice only be disposed of by returning them to local governments.

The British taxpayer would then have to cough up large sums to build inferior substitutes in the outer suburbs. The loss would not be in face and diplomatic effectiveness alone but in hard cash.

Your diplomatic staff's idea of the constituents of what they call "the good life" is equally strange. Most diplomats join the career because of the interest of the work itself and in the hope of rendering patriotic service. Those who think it a luxury for a diplomat and his wife to run a small four-star hotel in their spare time without the incentive of the profit motive should try it for themselves.

Yours sincerely,
DONALD TEBBIT,
35 Buckingham Gate, SW1.
April 7.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Labour's policy for pensioners

From Mr Brynmor John, MP for Pontypridd (Labour) and Mr Peter Shore, MP for Tower Hamlets, Stepney and Poplar (Labour)

Sir, Your Political Correspondent, Anthony Bevins, simply got it wrong when he wrote last Wednesday (feature, April 6) about Labour's policy for pensioners. He has mixed up two separate matters.

The costing of £2bn for "benefits and pension increases" given in Labour's pre-Budget Economic Statement relates to the full-year costs of measures we considered of priority in year one, had we been in power at the time of last month's Budget.

Labour's 12-point plan for pensioners is a phased programme and the costings given were not for the first full year but were the full-year cost of the plan when wholly implemented.

Yours faithfully,
BRYNMOR JOHN,
PETER SHORE,
House of Commons.
April 12.

Post-coital pill

From Mr Gerard Wright, QC

Sir, Mr Ian Kennedy asserts (April 11) that the law on abortion concerns itself with pregnancy and procuring a miscarriage. This is not so. It is quite true that the Offences against the Person Act 1861 strikes at acts done "without intent to procure the miscarriage of any woman", but the underlying policy of our law, both in that Act and in the common law from time immemorial, is the protection of human life. Would anyone wish it to be otherwise?

Legal authors of the past dealt with abortion at common law in terms of the medical knowledge of their day. Thus Bracton deemed abortion to be homicide and said that such homicide was committed when the foetus was *animatum* (alive). Later authors, eg, Coke, reduced the crime committed from homicide to "a great misprision" and said that it was committed when a woman was "quick with child". Quick, of course, means alive.

We know that quickening is a physical sensation experienced by a mother when, for the first time, she feels life within her. In fact she has had life within her since the moment of conception, for it is an indisputable biological fact that human life begins at fertilization.

The post-coital pill destroys the life that the woman carries within her. I agree with Dr Finnis (April 5) that in doing so it causes her to miscarry within the meaning of the Offences against the Person Act 1861. However, even were this not so, it is still an offence at common law to destroy that which Bracton described as *animatum* and Coke as "quick".

We now know that the fertilized ovum is both *animatum* and "quick" because it has human life, and I would therefore suggest that, statute apart, the common law of England protects the living but unimplanted conceptus and renders the use of the post-coital pill criminal.

Yours faithfully,
GERARD WRIGHT,
Melbourne Buildings,
21 North John Street,
Liverpool.
April 11.

From Dr Margaret White

Sir, In over 20 years on the Bench I have come to expect lawyers to use words, like Humpty Dumpty, to suit their own purposes. Ian Kennedy (April 11) is the first lawyer in my experience to use emphasis in this way. He writes: "We only speak of an ectopic *pregnancy* if the egg has implanted somewhere".

We don't speak of an ectopic *pregnancy* but an *ectopic* pregnancy, meaning that in this case the pregnancy is extra-uterine.

On the question of test-tube babies he asks, "whose pregnancy would the test-tube baby be?" If there is no human life before implantation why does he use the expression test-tube baby? Likewise, what do infertile women receive when they pay for *in-vitro* fertilization?

Nothing is added to the embryo in the womb except nourishment. If life is not present before the fertilized egg is injected into the womb it certainly won't be there afterwards.

Yours sincerely,
MARGARET WHITE
196 Lower Addiscombe Road,
Croydon,
Surrey.
April 11.

Nostell Priory painting

From Mr Eric Lyall

Sir, Some of your readers may have assumed that Mr Barlow's letter (April 9) was intended for publication on April 1. Bearing in mind the possibility that this is not so some answer may be desirable.

Rebus-makers cheerfully made (and make) far worse puns than those suggested by Mr Leslau (Spectrum, March 25).

Jonchée – strewn flowers, etc – would, to a rebus-maker, be sufficiently near to *Jean caché*.

Faire tapisserie has come to mean "to be a wall-flower" though it has retained its earlier meaning of "to line the walls". *Tapisserie* also can mean a carpet.

Crédence or credence in English means belief.

The French have gallantly attempted to maintain their language, but there have been developments over the centuries. Perhaps we should add an expert in medieval French to the historian and botanist.

Meanwhile the other meaning of *porter à faux*, "to be inconclusive", may be the most appropriate comment.

Yours faithfully,
ERIC LYALL,
Riders Grove,
Old Hall Green,
Nr Ware,
Hertfordshire.
April 9.

Politics and voluntary bodies

From the Chairman of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations

Sir, The Dr Vaughan "affair" has potentially raised a number of crucial questions about the relations between Government and independent bodies in receipt of Exchequer financial support and about the proper balance between independence and accountability.

For many years voluntary organisations have received grants from public funds. Such funding has increased very considerably over the past decade; and today many of our social and other welfare services depend on the contributions of voluntary organisations working in partnership with local authorities and central government.

While those who work with the elderly or handicapped, with children in trouble or ex-offenders, with the mentally ill or chronically sick and those assisting the poor or unemployed or seeking to improve our environment have a primary interest in providing services, they may also seek to improve conditions or address the causes of problems. This may well lead voluntary organisations and others to advocate changes in the policies and practices of a local authority or of a government department in the interests of those they seek to serve.

Successive ministers and civil servants have benefited from the advice given by voluntary organisations. It would be a sad loss to the evolution of social policy and to the processes of government if voluntary organisations in receipt of public funds were forbidden from expressing their views on policy and administration as it effects their proper aims.

Political suasion by government paymasters would be as dangerous and improper in this context as in the other areas of our free society where the principle of the "arm's length grant" (support without control of policy, though subject to scrutiny of propriety and efficiency) has also long been recognized, e g, the arts, university teaching and research, the BBC, the judiciary, royalty and certain international bodies and causes. There is already adequate protection in the existing charities law against "political" abuse by the recipients; but it is for the Charity Commissioners by due process to enforce, not for ministers by administrative whimsy.

There remains lamentable confusion about what is and what is not "political" activity. Case law suggests that some aims are classified as political whereas others are not, even though both seek to influence public policy, legislation, etc; and this breeds suspicion that the judgment between them is itself "political", with a bias against those who would change rather than conserve the status quo.

It would be more in accordance with the principle that law should be clear, ascertainable and predictable if a simpler, more objective test were adopted, namely – that politics is essentially about the retention and transference of government power and that, in a democratic society and in the present context, "political" activity consisted only of activity whose aims include, overtly or covertly, the influencing of the electoral process in favour of (or against) any person or party.

Contributing to debates on public policy and administration would not, as such, constitute "political" activity in this context. If it did, every body that ever sought to influence government and Parliament, including many highly respected and worthy charities, would be caught.

If they are excluded, then the line can only be drawn either "subjectively" according to how controversial the influence is or "objectively" in relation to the electoral process itself. Objectivity is better.

I believe that the recognition of these principles would both uphold the proper freedom and independence of voluntary bodies (and others receiving "arm's length" government support), satisfy Parliament as to the proper and efficient use of the taxpayers' money, reinforce desirable partnership between central and local government and voluntary bodies and correct the present unsatisfactory confusion – and resulting suspicion – over the definition of "political" activity.

Our free and plural society would be healthier for thus dissipating the shadow of "Big Brother", while leaving the electoral process as the proper domain of the parties and the politicians.

Yours etc,
PETER JAY, Chairman,
National Council for Voluntary Organizations,
26 Bedford Square, WC1.
April 14.

From Mrs Margaret P. Kerry

Sir, I was very pleased to read your report of, and leader on (April 12) the attack on citizens' advice bureaux by Dr Gerald Vaughan.

As one of many volunteer workers, I am training to be of use in a local CAB. I have been impressed by the thoroughness of the training, the devotion of the mainly unpaid workers and the high principles behind the organization.

Even more impressive has been the gratitude expressed to me by clients who have come to rely on the bureau for confidential and impartial help.

It is obvious from our day book that our clients are from many walks of life and their problems are as diverse as their backgrounds. One is proud to be part of this most helpful, and, in our increasingly bureaucratic system, essential organization.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET P. KERRY,
318 Ashgate Road,
Chesterfield, Derbyshire.

Housing Bill

From the Chairman of the Consumers' Association

Sir, The Housing and Building Control Bill, which is now on its way through Parliament, creates a right which enables the Secretary of State to pass on, to bodies which are not answerable to Parliament, his statutory power to give practical guidance on the general safety requirements of the building regulations.

The bodies which could be given the power under the Bill to approve the guidance documents are likely to be private organisations and may in their turn approve a document issued by a third organisation. In addition, if a particular document proved in use to be unacceptable there is no procedure in the Bill for forcing its withdrawal.

Furthermore, the Bill gives the documents containing the guidance legal status. In a prosecution for a breach of the regulations, or in an action for negligence, a failure to have complied with a document will tend to establish liability, while compliance will tend to negative liability.

It is true that British Standards, for example, have been used to indicate ways in which a builder or producer may comply with the building regulations, but final approval of the use of the standard for this purpose has remained with the Secretary of State and the relevant standards have been incorporated in a formal statutory instrument.

In addition, there have been consultations with all interested parties including consumer representatives. Maybe the new-style "approved documents" do not need to be laid before Parliament, but they ought to gain their status by being directly approved by the Secretary of State who is responsible to Parliament. He should assure himself that there has been adequate consultation with all interested parties.

If the Bill is not amended, the power of the Secretary of State's representatives – his officials – to influence decisions will be reduced and the way will be open for special, including private, interests to define criteria of public interest behind closed doors.

Of course, the British Standards Institution has its own procedures for public consultation, but other bodies may not have such a procedure. When the consultation is finished, a decision has to be taken on the public interest, particularly when there is disagreement on acceptable levels of safety. The decision should be taken by the Secretary of State.

We do not believe that the constitutional implications have been widely understood and discussed and the precedent the Bill could establish could have serious implications for safety legislation.

Yours faithfully,
RACHEL WATERHOUSE,
Chairman,
Consumers' Association,
14 Buckingham Street, WC2.

Buying British

From Major E. D. Stroud

Sir, Dishwashers, too, it seems are no longer made in Britain. Wishing to replace our aged Colston, my wife wrote to the Electricity Council enquiring about a British-made model. The Electricity Council replied: "We do not know of any dishwashers that are British made" and recommended a foreign model.

Yours faithfully,
E. D. STROUD,
Lantern Cottage,
35 Upper Street, West Harnham,
Salisbury, Wiltshire.

Christians and Jews

From Mr Noel Hughes

Sir, In his perceptive comment on your leader, "Jesus was a Jew" (April 2) Professor Moule pointed out (April 7) that it was under the swastika, rather than the Cross, that the Jews suffered their holocaust. Perhaps he might agree that, today, it is the hammer and sickle rather than the Cross that bears most hard.

May I take up a point that Professor Moule passed by? "The record of organized Christendom", you argued, "entitles no Christian to presume that his church is any more complete in its spirituality than the rabbinical approach theoretically left behind, in the wrong, twenty centuries ago". The years of diaspora have brought the Jews much persecution, but also a freedom from the responsibility for the exercise of political power. Will Israel prove truer to Judaism than "organized Christendom" has been to the teaching of Christ?

There is a glaring paradox in Israel today that prompts the question. Nowhere in the world is greater effort made than in Israel to keep fresh the memory of the holocaust experience: and I can understand why that should be so. Nowhere is the doctrine of Herrenvolk preached with such disgusting and authentic clarity as it is in Israel by Rabbi Kahane: and I cannot understand why that should be so.

Yours faithfully
NOEL HUGHES,
16 Mount Ararat Road,
Richmond, Surrey.
April 11.

From Mr Ivan Jelínek

Sir, I would like to point out that the opinions, expressed in your leading article, "Jesus was a Jew" (April 2), are heretical from the Christian point of view. The perfect unity of God Incarnate cannot be split into God and man.

Man can be English or Russian, or, in the somewhat racial view of the author of your leading article, Caucasian, Semitic, etc. The human nature of Jesus Christ cannot be isolated from his divine nature and cannot be qualified as of one nation or race.

God chose a particular time, place, and circumstances to enact the drama of his life on earth as Jesus. He did not forget the prophets through whose mouth he spoke; those who would have killed him as a new-born baby; those who would listen to him entranced and obey him but soon afterwards would call for his blood; the man who betrayed him; the man who executed him.

God chose a particular time, place and circumstances yet was not their product in the person of Jesus Christ. This is the reason why – contrary to your leading article – Jesus could not be considered as "the massive gift with which Jewry has endowed the Christian world".

As far as antisemitism is concerned, sufficient grounds for rejecting it lie in the rejection of any sort of ignorance which disregards Jesus's command to love one's neighbour. Negative feelings towards certain actions of the state of Israel do not represent antisemitism but anti-Israelism, a parallel to which can be found in anti-Americanism.

Yours faithfully,
IVAN JELINEK,
6 Gordon Avenue,
East Sheen, SW14.

Health service distortions

From Professor John A. Davis and others

Sir, There has been much rejoicing in the press over the Government's decision to keep open the Tadworth branch of the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children with the help of charitable moneys. We acknowledge the very high standards of care provided there for a relatively small number of chronically ill children, but we question whether this is really the way to run a health service, bearing in mind the Government's expressed wish to delegate decision-making from the centre to the periphery.

Here in the Cambridge paediatric unit for various reasons we have both the highest bed occupancy and throughput in the country, even though these measures of workload are usually reciprocally related. Shortage of nursing staff, unsuitable accommodation and lack of necessary equipment make it difficult to keep a high-class service going. We are therefore surprised and envious that large sums of money can be found to head off a prudential decision on the part of the Governors of Great Ormond Street to cut their coat according to the cloth available.

This is by no means the only case of which we are aware where political considerations have led to the overruling by central authorities of sensible decisions by health authorities to make the best use of the resources made available. It makes nonsense of the Government's professed desire for devolution in the administration of the NHS.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN A. DAVIS,
N. R. C. ROBERTON,
N. D. BARNES,
University of Cambridge Clinical School,
Department of Paediatrics,
Level 8,
Addenbrooke's Hospital,
Hills Road,
Cambridge.

Stamp of neglect

From Sir John Biggs-Davison, MP for Epping Forest (Conservative)

Sir, I read in your columns today (April 12) that the festival, "Britain salutes New York", is to be held on the anniversary of the treaty severing the Americans, against the wishes of very many of them, from the British Crown.

Likewise, our Post Office celebrated the bicentennial of the revolutionary republic with a special postal issue. It rejected my request for a special issue to honour the United Empire Loyalists who, 200 years ago, endured suffering and loss in moving to Canada or the Caribbean so as to stay beneath the British Crown and flag. It was my hope, and that of today's United Empire Loyalists, that a special stamp should be issued in Canada, too.

This putting of those who have been against us before those who have been for us is of a piece with the dissuasion of Sir John A. Macdonald from naming the dominion the Kingdom of Canada – lest Washington be offended. We should show a little loyalty and gratitude and stop crawling.

I remain, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
JOHN BIGGS–DAVISON,
House of Commons.
April 12.

Public records

From Mr Anthony J. Camp

Sir, The "entire answer" to Mrs Elizabeth Stazicker (April 11) is for Lord Teviot's Bill to be amended to enable the copies of the 100-year-old records, presently in the hands of the local superintendent registrars, to be passed to the county record offices.

It is an absurd omission: it would save the cost of purchasing microfilms and reduce by half the congestion in any central repository.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY J. CAMP, Director,
Society of Genealogists,
37 Harrington Gardens, SW7.
April 11.

Elgin Marbles

From Mr B. F. Cook

Sir, With reference to the letter you published on April 8 from Dr Mainstone, your readers may care to know that the British Museum has for some time been discussing this very matter with the official Greek Committee for the Preservation of the Acropolis Monuments. This followed their request for replicas to be made of several architectural members, including those mentioned, in connection with the restoration of the Erechtheion.

Yours faithfully,
B. F. COOK, Keeper,
Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities,
The British Museum, WC1.
April 11.

Stumped on the crease

From Mr Clive Farley

Sir, Clare Colvin's criticism, in her review of *Charley's Aunt* (April 7), that "surely an old soldier like Colonel Sir Francis Chesney would not wear a pair of flannels without a sharply ironed crease" is unjustified.

For formal wear in 1892 trousers would have remained uncreased. Creases did not appear in trousers until the late nineties with the advent of trouser-presses, and only into common currency in the Edwardian era.

Yours faithfully,
CLIVE FARLEY,
19 Florence Road,
Boscombe,
Bournemouth,
Dorset.
April 8.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 14: The Queen, Sovereign of the Order, accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, was present this morning at a Service of the Royal Victorian Order held in St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Grand Master of the Order, The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester, The Duke of Gloucester, The Duke and Duchess of Kent, Princess Alexandra, the Hon Mrs Angus Ogilvy, the Duke of Beaufort and Colonel Sir Henry Abel Smith were also present.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness were received upon arrival by the Dean of Windsor and the Chaplain of the Order (Reverend Canon Edwyn Young).

The Service was conducted by the Chaplain.

Detachments of Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms and The Queen's Bodyguard of the Yeoman of the Guard and the Military Knights of Windsor were on duty in St George's Chapel.

The Hon Mary Morrison, Sir William Heseltine and Squadron Leader Adam Wise were in attendance.

Afterwards The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh gave a Reception at Windsor Castle for those who attended the Service.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 14: The Prince of Wales was represented by the Marquess of Lothian at the Requiem Mass for King Umberto of Italy which was held in Westminster Cathedral this morning.

CLARENCE HOUSE
April 14: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was represented by Prince Michael of Kent at the Requiem for King Umberto of Italy which was held in Westminster Cathedral this morning.

YORK HOUSE, ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 14: The Duke of Kent this afternoon visited the Wellcome Foundation Limited and the Dartford Branch of the Young Men's Christian Association and later, as Patron of the Kent Opera, attended a performance of *Don Giovanni* at The Orchard, Dartford.

His Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Lieutenant Commander Sir Richard Buckley, RN.

YORK HOUSE AND THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
April 14: The Duke and Duchess of Kent and Princess Alexandra were represented by the Hon Angus Ogilvy at the Requiem Mass for *King Umberto of Italy which was* held in Westminster Cathedral this morning.

The Queen will carry out engagements in Glasgow on July 1.

The Duke of Edinburgh will carry out engagements in Ottawa, Canada, from June 30 to July 5.

Princess Anne, President of the Save the Children Fund, will be present at the Save the Children Fund Princess Anne awards ceremony and branches rally at Castle Howard, Yorkshire, on July 2.

Princess Anne will attend the Master of the Farriers' Company's reception at Luton Hoo, Bedfordshire, on July 3.

The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, the Denstone expedition to Inaccessible Island, will attend a reception at the Royal Geographical Society, Kensington Gore, London, on May 3.

The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, the Kensington Society, will unveil a commemorative tablet to Princess Alice Countess of Athlone in a memorial garden at Kensington Town Hall, London, on May 4.

The Duke of Gloucester will open the Building Conservation Trust's Care of Buildings Exhibition at Hampton Court Palace, on May 5.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of the Earl of Ancaster will be held in Lincoln Cathedral tomorrow, April 16 at 11am.

A memorial tribute to Sir Clifford Curzon will take place at the Church of St Sepulchre without Newgate, Holborn Viaduct, EC1, at 11am on Wednesday May 18 1983.

Birthdays today

Mr Jeffrey Archer, 43; Sir Adrian Cadbury, 54; Miss Claudia Cardinale, 45; Lord Grey of Naunton, 73; Mr John Grigg, 59; Mr Neville Marriner, 59; Sir Peter Menzies, 71; Mr Maurice Shock, 57; Colonel H. E. Shortt, 96; Sir Leslie Smith, 64; Mr C. O. Stanley, 84; Dame Susan Walker, 77; Sir Douglas Wass, 60.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

General James Dalton (USAF), director of the Joint Staff at the Pentagon and a former military advisor to the US-Soviet strategic arms limitation talks, to be Chief of Staff at the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, in succession to General Richard Lawson.

Major-General M. F. Reynolds to be Assistant Director, Plans and Policy Division, International Military Staff, Nato Headquarters, Brussels, from July 1.

Rear-Admiral J. C. Warsop, aged 55, Port Admiral Rosyth, to be Flag Officer and Port Admiral Portsmouth in September, in succession to Vice-Admiral A. S. Tippet.

Mr Andrew Wood, aged 39, formerly Chief Press Officer at the Home Office, to be head of Information Services (London) of the Northern Ireland Office.

Legal

The following to be recorders who have been assigned to the Northern Circuit: Mr **Charles Bloom**, Mr **Robert Brown**, Mr **P. C. Clegg**, Mr **G. A. Essor**, Mr **R. H. Q. Henriques**, Mr **T. D. T. Hodson**, Mr **B. C. Maddocks**, Mr **D. A. Poole**.

Mr **H. J. Byrt**, QC, to be a circuit judge, assigned to the South-eastern Circuit.

Luncheons

Ministry of Defence
Mr Peter Blaker, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, was host yesterday at a luncheon given by Her Majesty's Government at Admiralty House in honour of Mr C. L. B. Rogers, Deputy Prime Minister of Belize, and Minister of Defence and Home Affairs. Also present were:
Mr M J Hulse, Lieutenant-General Sir Maurice Johnston, Mr J N H Blelloch, Air Vice-Marshal J M D Sutton, Major-General A W Dennis, Brigadier B Marciandi, Mr R H Vernall, Mr Cyril Townsend, MP, Mr Kevin McNamara, MP, Mr D Romer, Mr J L Wild, Mr R P Craine and Mr J Rae.

Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers Association of Britain
Mr Douglas Muggeridge was the guest of honour at a lucheon given yesterday by the Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers Association of Britain at the Royal National Hotel. Mr David Adamson, president of the association, was in the chair.

Imperial Society of Knights Bachelor
Sir Austin Bide was host at a luncheon given yesterday by the Imperial Society of Knights Bachelor at Clarges House. The luncheon was prededed by a council meeting at which those present were:
Sir Gilbert Inglefield (deputy knight principal), Sir Arthur Driver (registrar), Sir John Howard (treasurer), Lord Fraser of Kilmorack, Lord Harvington, Sir Rex Niven, Sir Bernard Waley-Cohen, Sir Alexander Durie, Sir William Harris, Sir David Napley, Sir Amar Maini, Sir Eric Cheadle, Sir Anthony Lewis and Sir Colin Cole (Garter King of Arms).

Lord's Taverners
Mr Raphael Djanogly was host at a luncheon in honour of Mr Denis Thatcher given at the Berkeley Hotel, London, yesterday. Those present were:
Mr Ronald Gerard, Mr David Evans, Mr David Djanogly, Captain and Mrs Anthony Swainson, Miss Caroline Swainson, the Rev Simon Hass, Mr W J Edrich, Mr John Coldstream, Miss Anita Harris, Mr Peter Murray, Miss Liz Fraser, Mr Michael Murray, Mr Edward Cattle and Miss Jane Rogers-Coltman.

Service dinners

Royal Regiment of Artillery
The Royal Regiment of Artillery held a farewell parade at Woolwich yesterday for the Master Gunner, General Sir Harry Tuzo, who will relinquish the office on May 1. In the evening he was dined out by officers of the regiment in the Royal Artillery Mess.

RAF Strike Command
Air Marshal Sir Charles Ness, Air Member for Personnel, was the principal guest at a guest night held at Headquarters Strike Command yesterday. Air Chief Marshal Sir David Craig, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, was present. Group Captain D J Sledge presided.

Dinners

Speaker
The Speaker gave a dinner in Speaker's House yesterday in honour of Mr Bakary Darbo, MP, Vice-President of The Gambia. The High Commissioner for The Gambia was present. Other guests were:
Mr William Whitelaw, CH, MP, Sir Neil Marten, MP, Sir Bernard Braine, MP, Mr Christopher Brocklebank-Fowler, MP, Mr Paul Dean, MP, Mr Gerard Fitt, MP, Mr Alastair Goodlad, MP, Mr Michael Walsh, MP, Lord Avebury, Mrs Louise N'Jie, MP, Mr B. K. Bojang, Alhaji M. Sillaye, Mr A. K. N'Jie, Mr Roger Lees, Canon Trevor Beeson, Group Captain Robert Thomson and Mr W. A. Beaumont.

Upholders' Company
The upholders' Company held their annual installation dinner at Goldsmiths' Hall yesterday. Mr Gordon A. Day was elected Master, Mr Jack H. Ayerst Senior Warden and Mr Sydney A. G. Rust Junior Warden. At a dinner held later the speakers were Mr D. D. Mitchell and Mr T. M. Thomas.

South Africa Club.
The South African Ambassador presided at a dinner given given last night by the South Africa Club at the Savoy Hotel at which the guest of honour was Lord Chalfont. Among those present were Sir Antony and Lady Acland, Sir John and Lady Leahy, Lord Vaizey and Major Sir Patrick Wall.

Carmen's Company
The Carmen's Company entertained the Colonels Commandant, Royal Corps of Transport, the Director-General of Transport and Movements (Army) and other military and civilian guests at a court dinner at Stationers' Hall last night. The company's sword of honour was presented to Second Lieutenant M. R. Little, RCT. The Master, Mr C. A. Hart, presided, and the other speakers were Major-General P. H. Benson, Major-General G. H. W. Howlett and Lieutenant-Colonel S. F. Haste, RCT.

Grain and Feed Trade Association
The annual dinner of the Grain and Feed Trade Association was held at Grosvenor House yesterday. The principal guest was Mr Justice Lloyd and the other speakers were Mr W. S. Biggs, president, Mr R. E. R. Tyrrell and Dr Klaus Werner.

Inns of Court Society in California
The Lord Chief Justice was the princpal guest at the first dinner of the Inns of Court Society in California held in Middle Temple Hall yesterday. Mr Keith Evans, chairman, presided and among those also present were:
The Vice-Chancellor, the President of the Family Division, Judge Eric Stockdale, Judge Turrentine (California), American lawyers practising in London, Mr Michael Brown and Mr Michael Cranston.

Bowyers' Company
The Bowyers' Company held a ladies night dinner yesterday at Fishmongers' Hall. Those present included:
The Master and Mrs James Archibald, Earl and Countess of Aylesford, Lord and Lady Birkett, Lord and Lady Guernsey, Sir Richard Neville, Maj-Gen Sir John and Lady Moore, Sir Ralph Anstruther, Prince and Princess A Croy, Mr B MacDermot, Upper Warden, Mr J R Bickford Smith, Renter Warden, Mr T S R Hardy and Miss Emma Hardy.

Arab-British Chamber of Commerce.
The Arab-British Chamber of Commerce gave a dinner at the Hotel Intercontinental yesterday after a meeting of its board of directors. The guests were received by Sir Richard Beaumont, Chairman of the board, and Mr Abdul Karim Al-Mudaris, secretary-general and chief executive of the chamber. Lord Carrington was the guest of honour and principal speaker. Mr Al-Mudaris and Sir Richard Beaumont also spoke. Among the guests were ambassadors of Arab countries, senior officials of HM Government. Members of Parliament and directors of the chamber.

Framework Knitters' Company
At a court meeting held at Girdlers' Hall yesterday Sir John Peel was elected Master, Mr Rolf Noskwith Upper Warden and Mr Howard Ellis Under Warden for the ensuing year. The Master presided at a dinner held later when the other speakers were Mr Bernard Weatherill, MP, Mr John R. Crickmay and Mr Peter Osborne. The guests included the Master and the Clerk of the Girdlers' Company.

Requiem Mass

King Umberto
Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother was represented by Prince Michael of Kent and the Prince of Wales by the Marquess of Lothian at a solemn Requiem Mass in memory of King Umberto celebrated in Westminster Cathedral yesterday. The Duke and Duchess of Kent and Princess Alexandra were represented by the Hon Angus Ogilvy. The Apostolic Pro-Nuncio was the principal concelebrant and also gave an address. the Italian Government was represented by the Italian Consul-General. Among others present were:

Prince and Princess Vittorio Emanuele di Savoia, Princess Maria Gabriella and other members of the family.

Ambassadors and other members of the Diplomatic Corps, Margaret, Duchess of Argyll, the Marchioness of Lothian, Judith, Countess of Listowel, Viscount and Viscountess Hambleden, Viscount Monckton of Brenchley with Prince Rupert of Loewenstein, Lord Craigmyle, Mr Peregrine Bertie, Sir Peter Hope, Mr John George, Mr Dennis Fahrson Dahlberg, Mr Michael Callender, Mr Desmond Mulvany, Mr Peter Dewar and Mr John Nevil (Knights of Malta).

The Right Rev Ambrose Weekes (representing the Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe), Lord Thorneycroft, CH, and Lady Thorneycroft, Jacqueline, Lady Killearn, Lord and Lady Forte, Lady Alexandra Metcalfe, the Hon Rocco Forte, the Hon Mrs Douglas Woodruff, Helen, Lady Dashwood, Sir Ashley Clarke, Sir Archibald and Lady Ross, Lady (David) Kelly, Princess Rospigliosi, Princess Sirignano, Count and Countess Frankaro, Count Smoczewski, Marchese E Ferrero, the Duchess of Bronte, the Consul-General for Monaco and Mrs Ivanovic, Air Vice-Marshal and Mrs John Elton, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Neil McLean.

Professor George Bancroft (Italian Hospital) with Miss A Icardi (matron), Father Vittorio and Grand Ufficiale Serafino Pini (vice-president, League of Friends); Mr Rowland Hill, Mr John Stafford Moule, Mr David Williamson (Burke's Royal Families of the World), Mr S R Bunford (Monarchist Press Association), Mr and Mrs Brian Croonan (Monarchist League), Professor Patrick McLaughlin, Mr Ralegh Trevelyan, Father John Charles-Roux, Miss Jean Shaw, Mr Philip Martin, Mr Daniel Cooke, Father C Cunningham (representing Rosminian Fathers), Father D Tremblay, Mr Clifford Frost, Mrs S M Brunet-Cohen, Mrs Ben Travers, Mr Peter Labeck, Mr Peter Tunnard, Mr and Mrs Anthony Rhodes, Colonel R E Culverhouse, Colonel C Stewart, representatives of the Missionary Sisters of Verona at Chiswick, Mr Mohammad-Reza Zare-Nejad (representing Iranian Monarchists), Miss M S Zavaloni-Vrioni (representing Albanian Royalists in Exile) and representatives of royal houses of Europe.

Mrs Michael Heseltine, wife of the Secretary of State for Defence, launching HMS Edinburgh (above) at Cammell Laird's shipyard on Merseyside yesterday. The ship is a type 42 destroyer and will cost £50m. She will be slightly longer than the Sheffield and Coventry, lost in the Falkland conflict last year.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr D. J. Benallick and Miss K. E. Duncan
The engagement is announced between David, younger son of Mr and Mrs Benallick, of Llangynidr, Powys, and Kirsty, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J. S. R. Duncan of Edinburgh.

Mr P. R. Betteridge and Miss A. C. Swain
The engagement is announced between Paul, only son of Mr & Mrs J. Betteridge, of Cheam, Surrey, and Annabel, only daughter of Mr & Mrs Wm. G. Swain, of Morden, Surrey.

Mr M. P. L. Burgin and Miss N. J. Ramble
The engagement is announced between Mark Patrick Leslie, son of Mr and Mrs Patrick Burgin, of Holly Lodge, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, and Nicola Jane, daughter of Captain and Mrs John Rumble, of 88 Wroughton Road, London, SW11, and Keyhaven, Hampshire.

Mr J. R. A. Coales and Miss M. Borden
The engagement is announced between Robert, elder son of Mr and Mrs Robin Coales, of Coleshill, Buckinghamshire, and Margaret, daughter of Mrs. J. Borden and the late Mr J. Borden, of Allenhurst, New Jersey.

Mr P. L. Crosthwait and Miss M.-T. L. Forte
The engagement is announced between Peter, only son of Mr and Mrs J. L. Crosthwait, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, and Maria-Teresa, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs A. V. Forte, of Hove, Sussex.

Mr M. D. A. Thomas and Miss L. J. Hurt
The engagement is announced between Michel, son of Dr and Mrs F. Thomas, of Ghent, Belgium, and Jane, daughter of the late Mr. A. H. Hurt and *Mrs Hurt, of Charlotte*, North Carolina.

Mr K. K. Jones and Miss P. A. Watt
The engagement is announced between Kevin Kimberley, only son of Mr and Mrs Albert H. Jones, of Meols, Wirral, and *Priscilla Anne*, daughter of Dr and Mrs James Watt, formerly of Meols, Wirral, now of Aberdeenshire.

Lieutenant J. C. Lee, RN, and Miss E. A. Elliott
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr Reginald Lee, JP, and Mrs Lee, of Sandhurst, Kent, and Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and *Mrs Alan* Elliott, of Felin Crai, Brecon.

Mr S. Rhodes and Miss S. Simon
The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of the late Mr Denys Rhodes and the Hon Mrs Rhodes, of The Garden House, Windsor Great Park, and Susan, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Eden Simon, of Tara Farm, Bindura, Zimbabwe. The marriage will take place in Zimbabwe on June 18th.

Mr O. J. Ribeiro and Miss J. A. Pendleton
The engagement is announced between Octavio, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Amaro N. Ribeiro, of Harare, Zimbabwe, and Julie, daughter of Mr and Mrs Joseph B. Pendleton, of Esher, Surrey.

Mr A. Rose and Miss M. Spira
The engagement is announced between Andrew, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Stephen Rose, of Writtle, Essex, and Melanie, elder daughter of Mrs Meriel Koren, of Lower Froyle, Hampshire, and Mr Peter Spira, of Kensington, London.

Mr I. H. A. Hazeel *and Miss U. M. Stoner*
The engagement is announced between Ian Henry Alexander, elder son of the late Captain and Mrs Harry Hazeel, of Ormonde Gate, Chelsea, London, SW3, and Ursula Mary, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Paul Stonor, of Chownes Mead, Haywards Heath, Sussex.

Mr H. Vagg and Miss C. Beck
The engagement is announced between Howard, son of Mr and Mrs V. A. Vagg, of Sherston, Wiltshire, and Claudia, daughter of Mr and Mrs P. Beck, of Blackminster, Evesham.

***Mr D. C. Vigar* and Miss M. A. Barber**
The engagement is announced between David, son of the Rev Dr C. H. and Mrs Vigar, of Eastbourne, and Madeleine, daughter of the late Mr D. M. Barber and Mrs P. Hucker, of Redhill, Surrey.

Mr K. R. B. Wallerstein and Miss N. Taweevatanasarn
The engagement is announced between Konrad, elder son of Major and Mrs F. C. Wallerstein, of Versailles, France, and Nongluck, daughter of Mr and *Mrs B.* Taweevatanasarn, of Bangkok, Thailand.

Captain H. A. O. Wicks and Miss J. M. Smyth
The engagement is announced between Alastair Wicks, 14th/20th King's Hussars, son of the late Mr J. A. E. Wicks and Mrs Wicks, of Queen Alexandra's Court, Wimbledon, and Joanna, daughter of *Major* and Mrs R. H. Smyth, of Headley, Hampshire.

Marriages

Mr A. W. Jacomb-Hood and Miss F. E. Mitchell
The marriage took place *April 9*, 1983, at St Peter's church, Newdigate, Surrey, between Mr Anthony Wykeham Jacomb-Hood and Miss Frances Elizabeth Mitchell.

Mr K. F. Unwin and Miss J. F. P. Arnold
The marriage took place on Saturday, April 9, at the Church of St Laurence, Hawkhurst, Kent, between *Mr Kieron Unwin* and Miss J. F. P. Arnold.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Alison Stevenson, Margaret Roe, Jane King and Holly Barker. Mr Mark Ray was best man.

A reception was held at Bedgebury Park.

Sale room

Iron Duke's keen eye for French furniture

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A set of four consoles dessertes, or sidetables, by Weisweiler, which sold for £162,000 at Christie's yesterday, were among a group of furniture either given to his cousin by the Duke of Wellington or bought under the duke's guidance.

There were six lots sent for sale by Lord Trevor from Brinkynalt in North Wales. By family tradition they came to Brinkynalt as a gift from the Iron Duke to Arthur Hill-Trevor, second Viscount Dungannon.

Fighting a war with France did not prevent the duke from keenly collecting French furniture as is demonstrated by the surviving collection at Stratfield Saye, with a particular bias towards Boulle marquetry.

The *consoles dessertes* were the most outstanding pieces from Brinkynalt, reaching Christie's expectations on price and selling to A. Ward-Jackson, a London dealer. *They have brilliantly chased ormolu* mounts and fine *bleu turquin* marble tops, probably to match the room for which they were made. *They could have been destined for a* royal appartment.

A pair of Louis XIV ebony and Boulle *pedestals* sold for £30,240 (estimated £20,000 to £30,000). They were sold from the collection of the Duke of York, second son of *George III, in 1827. The Duke of* Wellington had four similar pedestals at Stratfield Saye and there are six more in the Louvre.

An important pair of Louis XVI meubles d'appui featuring Boulle mounts, either taken from an old piece or imitated, made £59,400 (unpublished estimate about £30,000), in spite of poor condition.

The sale was filled with pieces from private collections not seen on the market in recent times but on the whole prices did not run beyond expectations. But only 7 per cent were left unsold and a total of £898,830 made.

From a large collection of earlier French furniture, another star lot was a *Louis XIV ebony and Boulle* side-table closely following a design by André Charles Boulle himself. Again, in spite of restoration a price *of £162,000* was secured in line with Christie's hopes. The rich ormolu mounts include satyr masks topping the legs, alternating with burst of acanthus leaves.

At Phillips a sale of textiles saw lace attract very strong competition. *A wedding dress of ivory silk with a* nineteenth-century Brussels applique lase bodice and overlay sold for £440 (estimate £200 to £250). *For £275 (estimate £80* to £100) another bidder secured a group of handkerchiefs with lace borders, three with Brussels *point de gaze*, one with Brussels *Rosaline*, one with Honiton and three others in whitework. The sale totalled £33,697 with 5 per cent unsold.

At Southeby's a sale billed as "jewels for the collector", in other words jewels relying on the artistic interest of their mounts as opposed to their carat value, made £232,254 with only three per cent unsold. It is always a popular field and prices seem to be on the move.

S. J. Phillips paid £18,700 for a charming swallow-tailed butterfly made up from rubies and diamonds in about 1905 and £15,400 (estimate £4,500 to £5,500) for a bracelet of about 1860 with interlacing ribbons *of rubies and diamonds supporting* seven large black pearls.

The strength of the market has apparently spread to the country. *Lawrence's of Crewkerne* reported a silver sale of £101,948 and only 1 per cent unsold. A Russian silver-gilt and enamel vodka cup in the form of a helmet *sold* for £3,410 (unpublished estimate £1,000 to £2,000).

Small items of silver were also selling at Sotheby's in London. A collection of silver caddy spoons ranged from one of 1799 in the form of a jockey cap going for £220 (estimate £150 to £200) to one of 1876 in the form of a stylized buttercup spray for £11

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid):

Catley, Mrs Louise Manuela Zita, of Kensington, London £260,899
Davidson, Mrs Winifred Emily, of Penarth £208,896
Dunning, Mr Bertram Richard, of Honiton, solicitor £391,044
Featherstone, Mrs Elsie May, of Kew Gardens £215,211
Gilbey, Mr John Gilbert, of Newbury £259,822
Raphael, Major Cyril Ernest, of Mayfair £403,328
Falcon, Mr George, of *Golders* Green, London, company director £238,479

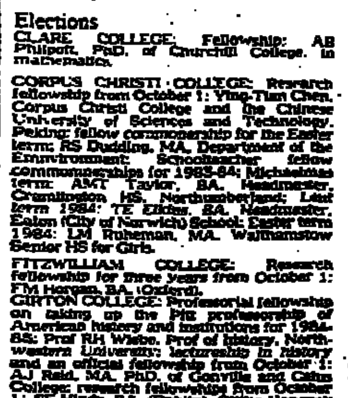
The Duchess of Gloucester will visit New York between May 8 and 12. She will attend events in connexion with "*Britain Salutes New York* 1983" and will be present at the Victorian Society scholarship fund tea.

University news

Cambridge



Elections
CLARE COLLEGE: Fellowship: AB Philpott, PhD, of Churchill College, in mathematics.



CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE: Research fellowship from October 1: Ying-Tian Chen, Corpus Christi College and the Chinese University of Sciences and Technology, Peking: fellow commonership for the Easter term: RS Dudding, MA, Department of the Environment: Schoolteacher fellow commonerships for 1983-84: Michaelmas term: AMT Taylor, BA, Headmaster, Cramlington HS, Northumberland; Lent term 1984: TE Elkins, BA, Headmaster, Eaton (City of Norwich) School; Easter term 1984: LM Ruheman, MA, Walthamstow Senior HS for Girls.

FITZWILLIAM COLLEGE: Research fellowship for three years from October 1: FM Horgan, BA (Oxford).

GIRTON COLLEGE: Professorial fellowship on taking up the Pitt professorship of American history and institutions for 1984-85: Prof RH Wiebe, Prof of history, Northwestern University; lectureship in history and an official fellowship from October 1: AJ Reid, MA, PhD, of Gonville and Caius College; research fellowships from October 1: SE Hinds, BA (Dublin), Ottilie Hancock research fellow, ME McDonald, DPhil (Oxford) Katherine Jex Blake research fellow; DH Skidmore, PhD, Rosamond Chambers research fellow, F Stewart, PhD, Sara Woodhead research fellow; from October 1, 1985: K Burgess, MSc (East Anglia), Hertha Ayrton research fellow.

JESUS COLLEGE: Fellowship and college lectureship in history from classics for three years from October 1: IMLeM DuQuesnay, BA, (Birmingham), university lecturer-elect in classics.

MAGDALENE COLLEGE: Fellowship and college lectureship in history from October 1: J Hoppitt, of Pembroke College; research fellowship in philosophy from October 1: SAR Makin, of Gonville and Caius College; fellow commonership for the Lent and Easter terms 1983: Group Capt DS Lennox, CEng; choral exhibitions from October 1, 1983: DA Paton, MA, Langham, from October 1: AC Lovell

NEW HALL: Vice-President from January 1, 1983: Miss JO Thomas, MA, PhD (Wales); pre-elected into a research fellowship for research in history for three years from October 1: D McB Anderson, BA, (Sussex), PhD, pre-elected into a Lady Margaret research fellowship for research in physiology for three years from October 1: KT Mullen, BA, (Oxford); pre-elected into a Kitson-Clark research fellowship for research in physics for three years from October 1: E Gardner, BSc, (Edinburgh), DPhil (Oxford).

Essex
The university is to receive a grant of more than £500,000 from British Telecom over the next five years to fund telecommunications studies. It will *provide* for two posts in the field of switching software and software engineering; two academic posts in teletraffic engineering.

Tacitus as a paper of record

By Philip Howard

What is history for, pray? Why, to teach lessons about why things happened; to give pleasure; *to slag* the enemy; and for 101 other reasons, most of which are sometimes true. At the annual meeting of the Classical Association in Nottingham University yesterday, Professor Jim Luce, of Princeton University, asked himself why Tacitus wrote history, and came up with several original and lively answers.

Tacitus himself gave a number of different explanations for his writing. In a famous passage in the *Annals*, he said that he wrote in order that virtuous acts should not be passed by in silence, and also that the fear of infamy among posterity should act as a deterrent to evil words and evil deeds.

Of course, we do not have to take everything from that enigmatic and *majestic master as the straight*forward truth. Professor Luce is unpersuaded by that account by Tacitus that he wrote history as a kind of moral uplift.

He thinks that Tacitus was in business principally as a paper of record, for the long eye of history. History was the one thing that the despot could not control. He could make black white, if it suited him. *He could burn books. He could* be given a hero's triumph for having managed to murder his mother. But, if Tacitus had anything to do with it, history would get him in the end. "To each man posterity gives his doom."

Tacitus thought that he had a sacred mission to record the deeds of his sabre-toothed tyrants and their hangers-on; and that belief *explains* his power, his energy, and the secret fury that sometimes shows.

Professor Luce produced interesting citations to show that emperors like Tiberius, who looked down their noses at contemporary popularity, were concerned for their glory in posterity. This is still a potent motive. Why did Richard Nixon not destroy those tell-tale Watergate *tapes? John Erlichmann* has recently told us that it was because he was afraid that Henry Kissinger would run away with the judgment of history, especially in such matters as Nixon's triumphs in foreign policy.

Civil Gallantry Awards

The following Civil Gallantry Awards have been announced:

THE QUEEN'S GALLANTRY MEDAL
Inspector Jim Newsham, West Yorkshire Metropolitan Police; Police Constable F J O'Neill (deceased), Metropolitan Police, N W Painter, postal executive C, East Central District Post Office; S Symons, postman, East Central District Post Office; M P Tamlin, leading fireman, West Midlands Fire Service; A Walker fireman, West Midlands Fire Service.

QUEEN'S COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT
Miss C M Barclay, Constable, Fife Constabulary; Miss Maria Esmeralda McGregor, Senior Nursing Officer, Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy; PC Peter Bissett, Grampian Police; W Hall, panel beater, Aberdeen; Constable Chan Chung-ling, Royal Hongkong Auxiliary Police Force; Constable Ko Wing-Wah, Royal Hongkong Police Force; Senior Inspector Ying Kawong Robert, Royal Hongkong Police Force; S R Colman, fireman, London Fire Brigade; PC J F T Crouch, Norfolk Constabulary; Mrs H J Evans, Constable, Metropolitan Police; P F Holmes, sub-divisional Officer, London Fire Brigade; M A Harding, fireman, London Fire Brigade; Sgt M Hawcroft (deceased), West Yorkshire Metropolitan Police; P Newbold, fireman, South Yorkshire Fire Brigade; M D Prince, brigademan, Mines Rescue Service, Kiverton Park Colliery, National Coal Board; Miss Angela Seeds, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

Andrzej Wajda wins Onassis prize

Athens (Reuter) – Andrzej Wajda, the Polish film director, yesterday won the Alexanders Onassis Foundation's Athinai Prize which is awarded annually for contributions to human rights and dignity. It is worth about £70,000.

The Olympia Prize for cultural or *scientific work was shared equally* between Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan for his research into energy development and the environmental group *Europa Nostra*.

Meeting

UN High Commissioner for Refugees
Mr Poul Hartling, United Nations *High Commissioner for Refugees*, addressed a meeting of the Parliamentary Panel on Refugees, the British Refugee Council and *Friends of the Ockenden Venture* at the House of Commons yesterday. Mr David Ennals, MP, was in the chair.

Heralds of Arms

Mr Terence David McCarthy has been appointed Bluemantle Pursuivant of Arms upon the promotion of Mr Peter Llewellyn Gwynn-Jones to be Lancaster Herald of Arms. Mr Henry Edgar Paston-Bedingfeld has been appointed Rouge Croix Pursuivant of Arms upon the promotion of Mr Thomas Woodcock to be Somerset Herald of Arms.

CORRECTION

The gold medal at *the* Royal Horticultural Society's Show (report, March 30) was awarded to a joint exhibit by Brodick Castle *Garden* (National Trust for Scotland) and the Younger Botanic Garden, Benmore (Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh).

OBITUARY

HIS HONOUR CHRISTMAS HUMPHREYS

Characterful impact on the Old Bailey

His Honour Christmas Humphreys, QC, who died at his home in London on April 13 at the age of 82, was one of the personalities of the bench who exhibited to the public by virtue of his being known both as a man of forensic aptitudes and a Buddhist, not to speak of his eccentricities as a Shakespearean scholar, a character full of pleasing contrarieties.

As Senior Crown Prosecutor for many years he had earned a reputation for presenting cases with force and skill, and his name is associated with both *Timothy Evans and Ruth Ellis*, both of whom he prosecuted and both of whom were executed. But on his elevation to the Bench he became known as the "gentle judge"; on one occasion his lenient sentencing caused a national *furore*, and in general his deportment might have surprised an observer of his previous performances for the prosecution.

Travers Christmas Humphreys was born in 1901. His father, Travers Humphreys, was one of the very few men to reach the High Court Bench from a background confined to criminal work; he was highly successful, both as prosecuting counsel and as a Judge. His mother was a JP who in due course became the very formidable chairman of a surburban Bench.

The family had the reputation of having minds limited to the single track of the criminal law; it was said that their frontiers lay between Ealing in the west and Archbold's *Criminal Pleadings* in the east. So far as the parents were concerned the comment was not entirely unjustified, but the time came when the son's *interest and activities ranged* equally far beyond Middlesex and beyond Archbold.

Humphreys (who was sometimes irreverently referred to "Xmas" but more often and more affectionately as "Toby") was educated at Malvern and at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, long the nursery of able embryonic lawyers. He was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple in 1924, and quickly built up a good criminal practice. His father's name and fame must have been of some help, but his *own intellectual and forensic* equipment were sufficient to ensure his success. His intelligence was cool and clear; he was lucid in exposition, cogent in argument, and penetrating in cross-examination.

His judgment was sometimes less than excellent, which meant that his actual performance did not always reach the very high level of his potential.

In 1934, following in his father's footsteps, he became Junior Treasury Counsel at the Central Criminal Court and for *the next quarter of a century his* professional work consisted mainly of handling the Director's cases at the Old Bailey; during this long period he moved steadily up the ladder of seniority, reaching the top rung as Senior Prosecuting Counsel in 1950.

He led for the prosecution in a large number of *causes célèbres*, of which probably the most famous and certainly the most unfortunate involved Timothy Evans, who was hanged in 1950 for the murder *of his daughter*; he was subsequently pardoned, and is now widely believed to have been quite innocent. Humphreys was later criticized for putting the case against Evans too high but, so skilful and so wicked was the web in which Christie had enmeshed him, that it is unlikely that the result would have been different, even if prosecuting counsel had been extremely mild, and defending counsel extremely brilliant.

Another celebrated case was his prosecution of Ruth Ellis for the *murder* of her lover; she was convicted and hanged in 1955, the last woman to be executed in this country and the debate which followed played its part in the eventual abolition of capital punishment.

Humphreys was elected a Bencher of his Inn in 1955; four years later he became a QC and *automatically* relinquished *his* Treasury appointment. It was a little late in the day for him to make a new career in Silk, and it came as no surprise when in 1962 he was appointed a Commissioner at the Old Bailey. He became an Additional Judge in 1968, and retained that position until his retirement in 1976.

He had the ability and the experience to make a good Judge, and he was one – though the occasional lapses of judgment which *had* been observed at the Bar continued to manifest themselves from time to time. He never lacked judicial courage, and was never inhibited from doing what he believed to be right by the knowledge that it would be controversial or unpopular. *The most* spectacular example of this occurred in 1975, when he suspended a *prison sentence on a youth of 18* who had pleaded guilty to two serious cases of rape.

He survived the resultant storm without difficulty. The Lord Chancellor was predictably unsympathetic to a Commons motion which called for the Judge's resignation or dismissal. Indeed, Humphreys received strong support from authoritative quarters; the National Association of Probation Officers, for example, took the view that "he deserved some praise for preserving the *important concept of individualized* sentencing".

While still a schoolboy Humphreys was converted to Buddhism, and this faith played a great and ever-growing part in his life. In 1924 he became the founding President of the London Buddhist Lodge (later the Buddhist Society), and held this position for more than fifty year.

He was a prolific writer, and *published more than twenty* books, most of which dealt with some aspect of his faith; one of them, called "*Buddhism*", sold more than 500,000 copies. He also published several volumes of verse (some of his war-poems were touching in their sincerity and simplicity), and he compiled a useful anthology of *Poems I Remember*. He published an autobiography, *Both Sides of the Circle*, in 1978. His interest in, and knowledge of eastern philosophy and art, was thorough; he was also a skilled *and enthusiastic* gardener.

One of the by-ways of scholarship which he explored with unorthodox assiduity related to Shakespeare; as President of the Shakespearean Authorship Society, he dismissed as equally invalid the pretensions of the Man of Stratford and of Francis Bacon, and was firmly convinced that the Earl of Oxford was the author of the plays and poems.

In 1927 Humphreys *married* Aileen Irvine. They had no children. His wife died in 1975.

GERRY HITCHENS

Gerry Hitchens, the former Aston Villa and England footballer, collapsed during a local match at Hope, North Wales, on April 13, and died at the age of 48. The manager of a local firm of builders merchants, he was playing for a solicitors XI against a council side.

Hitchens, a strong mobile centre forward with *no little* skill began his league career with Cardiff City and joined Aston Villa, where he had received three caps for England, when he became one of the first players to move to Italy at he beginning of the 1960s. He was one of the few who made the transition to Italian football successfully and he played out the rest of his full-time career there.

He represented England in the 1962 World Cup in Chile, earning another four caps while with Inter-Milan. He went to Milan in 1961, playing under their famous coach, Helenio Herrera for 15 months before moving to Turin and finally to Bergamo.

On his return *to England* he had a short spell in the Southern League before gong into business in Wales.

He leaves a widow and five children.

COMMISSIONER J. D. NEEDHAM

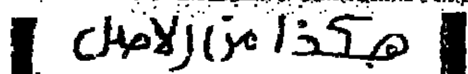
Commissioner John D. Needham, National Commander for The Salvation Army in the United States since 1982, and *before that* British Commissioner, with responsibility for all Salvation Army evangelical work in England, Wales and Ireland, died in Montclair, New Jersey, on April 13. He was 65.

Needham was born in Ilkeston, Derbyshire, on July 13, 1917, but moved with his parents, themselves both Salvation Army officers, to Baltimore at the age of seven. In October, 1935, he married Florence Jolly, who had already served for 18 months as an officer of the Army. Three years later *he* left Baltimore for the Salvation Army School for Officer Training in Atlanta.

He spent some years in command of corps in the Southern states, served as a divisional youth secretary, and then as a member of staff at the Officer Training School. *He did* public relations work and became a divisional commander. *In 1973 he* was appointed Territorial Commander, Caribbean and Central America Territory, and he spent four years there before returning to the United States as Territorial Commander, USA Central Territory, based in Chicago.

Needham came to London in *1980* as British Commissioner, and became National Commander, USA, the highest Salvation Army *office* in that country, two years later.

He is survived by his wife, three sons and a daughter.



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WALES

Demands for devolution no longer divide the nation. The overwhelming problem is unemployment and united efforts are being made to attract new industries and holiday visitors while retaining Welsh traditions

Politicians, praise be, are not infallible. If they were then the social order in Wales today would have disintegrated before an unremitting wave of unemployment. Anarchy would stalk the land and despair be turned into rebellion. This was the scenario painted three years ago by a parliamentary select committee primed by warnings that by this time 140,000 people could be on the dole in the principality.

Sadly, that figure has been passed and now 17.3 per cent or 178,077 people are unemployed, but the Welsh have emerged stoically from the storm of savage de-industrialization to confound the pessimists.

From Shotton in the North to Port Talbot in the South, British Steel has shed jobs like leaves in an autumn storm and those communities have paid the price for relying too heavily in the past on one major employer.

It is a picture repainted in the South Wales valleys, where the reign of king coal has diminished until there are now only 33 pits remaining in the area. After July only one pit will remain in the Rhondda valley whose seams fuelled the warships of the Empire.

The story, unfortunately, is not confined to the old traditional industries which have now been slimmed down in the face of the recession.

The towns of Milford Haven and Pembroke Dock in Dyfed are ringed by oil refineries but the hopes of unending prosperity on the back of black gold have been dashed against an unemployment rate of 30 per cent. And in Gwynedd, stronghold of the Welsh language and traditions, jobs have disappeared as the hugely impressive Dinorwic hydro-electric power scheme nears completion.

But not all is doom in the Celtic kingdom, for the Welsh, geographically on the wrong edge of Europe, are fighting back. Government-funded agencies such as the Development Corporation for Wales and Mid Wales Development, known until recently as the Development Board for Rural Wales, have been working unremittingly to attract and develop jobs in the country.

Last month in a stroke worthy of the best of Madison Avenue, Mid Wales Development hijacked the legendary Orient Express and took it from King's Cross to the Harrogate Fashion Fair to convince the moguls of high fashion that the designers of the area have long since shed their "tawdry tapestry" image. Mythology dies hard but the populist image of a strike-happy workforce is no longer deserved. Even the miners, traditionally regarded as the backbone of Welsh working class militancy, could decide only by half of 1 per cent to strike over a threatened pit and that action petered out through lack of support from the other British coalfields.

Superficially, Wales appears to be just another integrated region of Britain and many a retired couple from England live out their lives in Colwyn Bay of Prestatyn without ever understanding the nature or the culture of their adopted land. They never see that away from the coastal caravan and candy floss plain, just a few miles into the hills, the rural Welsh live a different life shrouded in the secrecy of an old culture and language.

The language, spoken by some 500,000 people, is at its eleventh hour. It has withstood repression, discriminatory acts of Parliament and vilification from within to persist against the odds. But the greatest challenge has come from the ease with which Anglo-American pop culture is beamed into the home. Chapels have become bingo halls and the faithful of the Welsh non-conformist tradition are now mostly elderly.

Just when it appeared that the language was to be engulfed the Welsh speakers mounted a tremendous rearguard action and now the language enjoys a status that minorities in other countries, such as Bretons, can only envy.

While clinging stubbornly to cultural differences, politically the Welsh are firmly entrenched in the mainstream of British politics. Although urged to do so by everyone with the exception of the Conservative Party, the nation resoundingly rejected the opportunity of having its own devolved assembly. The result was a body blow to Plaid Cymru, the Welsh Nationalist Party, who manage to return only two highly able members to Parliament.

Partly to meet this challenge the nationalists decided to campaign from a socialist platform but its first test under this banner did not improve its fortunes when its candidate was badly beaten at the Gower by-election.

More recently its campaign urging people to withold payment of water rates because they pay more than consumers in England has received broader support and the issue is now to be tested in the High Court.

But it appears likely that the party will continue to remain as no more than a peripheral threat to the big battalion who at the next election will be contesting 38 seats, two more than last time.

In spite of the furious ideological battles that have beset the party in England, the Labour Party in Wales continues to project a caring, almost old-fashioned image and at the next election it will be hoping that this solid front can help it to regain the losses it suffered last time.

The Liberal-SDP Alliance, which came second in Gower, will point to the legacy left by successsive local Labour administrations when it takes to the bustings.

For the once mighty industrial valleys, where huge personal fortunes were made out of iron and coal, have some of the worst housing in Britain. Within sight of these mean, substandard homes, the opulent palaces of the masters still stand as a monument to incredible insensitivity. According to some estimates 40 out of every 100 homes in the valleys are unfit to live in, making a total of 15.4 per cent of Welsh homes substandard, compared with a figure of 9.6 in England. But the little two-up, two-down houses are the legacy of every government. It is just cruel that in a more enlightened age the wealth which caused them to be built so hastily has dissipated in the face of the world recession.

There are problems too in education where a worrying 25 per cent of Welsh schoolchildren leave after 11 years of full time education without a single piece of paper to take to a prospective employer. Alarmingly, in some industrial areas of the south where the old miners' libraries no longer function, this figure climbs to above 30 per cent.

Superficially, these factors might deter potential industrialists, but those who have made their home in Wales are generally delighted by the willingness and adaptability of the workforce. And communications are generally much better than is supposed for most companies.

In the South most concerns are within easy reach of the M4 motorway, while in the North the A55 is being developed into a high density artery. Communications between North and South Wales remain unimpressive but then most traffic flows eastwards into England.

In the vast, pleasant and underpopulated tract of the central region, Mid Wales Development has pioneered small factories providing 6,000 job opportunities and is continuing to attract industry in spite of a seemingly strange decision by the Government to abolish assisted area status for the greater part of its area. The agency backs up its work by an effective social development programme which has improved the quality of life in a host of ways ranging from assistance with the building of new community halls to the grant aid for improved television reception.

Inexorably entwined with its great neighbour, the Welsh steadfastly refuse to be completely assimilated. The Welsh are stereotyped by rugby and song, but find nothing amusing or derogatory in these associations. The love of both are deeply ingrained into the character. The similarities with their English friends abound, but under the surface the differences are as immovable as the mighty castles built to subdue them.

Tim Jones
Welsh Correspondent

Photographs by Steve Benbow



Rhymney Valley, Gwent: the old industries have had their day, but new ones take their place

ECONOMY

Ready for the upturn

Wales, battered disproportionately by the economic gales which stripped the country of jobs after the boom years of the Sixties, is emerging bruised but fitter to take advantage of the industrial upturn forecast by the CBI.

The recession had a dramatic effect on the Principality, and in the steel towns of Shotton, Port Talbot and Newport the consequences were particularly shattering. More than most, those communities suffered from having their industrial eggs in one basket and as the steel plants shrank in capacity, jobs were lost in supply industries.

In the nine years to 1982, Wales lost 38,000 jobs in steel, and Mr Ian MacGregor, previously head of British Steel and now appointed chairman of the National Coal Board, recently told the Parliamentary Select Committee on Welsh Affairs that more redundancies could be on the way.

Abortive industrial action, coupled with threats of mobilizing the trade union triple alliance of steel, coal and rail, failed to halt the cuts and left the bitter accusation that Wales had been treated more harshly than the rest of Britain.

Although the human cost has been high, with Wales now suffering from an unprecedented unemployment rate of 180,000, the strategy seems to have been vindicated in strict business terms.

For since the cuts in jobs, particularly in the last few years, productivity at the steel plant has increased dramatically. Llanwern, for instance, has recently broken through the four man-hours per tonne barrier, bringing it to 3·8 hours, and the plant has been breaking output records.

There remains, however, the possibility that long-term prospects for steel sales are gloomy. Some claim that the present slight upturn is merely a temporary quirk caused by companies trying to beat price increases or building up stocks slightly after a long period of run-down.

Largely because of the political muscle of the miners, the coal industry has thus far escaped the kind of slimming operation to which steel has been subjected.

However, the failure, bitterly resented, of the other coalfields to back them over their abortive fight to save the Tymawr-Lewis Merthyr colliery, coupled with

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INDUSTRY

Aid package brings in new firms

The way Wales goes about attracting new industries is getting a big facelift. One change has been the formation of WINVEST – Wales Investment Location – to take over from the 25-year-old Development Corporation for Wales.

This new organization has a core of Development Corporation experts who have been in the forefront of bringing foreign companies to Wales, but it has more muscle. It has been given responsibility for the allocation of advance factories and the availability of selective government cash aid to industry.

Previously, factory allocations had to be referred to the Welsh Development Agency (WDA) and financial assistance to the Welsh Office Industry Department.

Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, in announcing that WINVEST would start on April 1, said: "The aim is to provide a one-stop shop for the prospective overseas investor and a sharper focus for our inward investment effort."

Throughout the recession Wales has maintained a good track record in attracting new companies although the scale of job creation has been swamped by redundancies in older industries such as steel.

The successes continue. A Finnish company has recently announced it is building a pulp and newsprint mill on Deeside, employing 270 people, and more than 1,000 jobs are expected to be created in back-up industries such as timber and haulage.

At Bridgend, in South Wales, the American-owned Align-Rite Corporation is the latest high-technology company to select Wales. It will be the first on a new industrial park being developed by Mid Glamorgan County Council, and will make photomasks – a product used in manufacturing microchips.

Mid Wales Development, the promotional name adopted by the Development Board for Rural Wales, attracts a steady stream of new businesses to its advance factories. Recently, these have included a computer company at Aberystwyth, an engineering company at Towyn and the expansion of a golf

continued on next page

WALES

POLITICS

The voters won't be taken for granted

There are recidivists in politics as there are in crime and, *despite the short, sharp shock* they were given in the referendum four years ago, some old lags have still not given up the *idea of devolution for* Wales. They certainly persist within the SDP, and the Labour Party too continue to argue the case – in both cases now for the whole of Britain – as a way of ensuring the public accountability of non-elected bodies.

Not surprisingly, the Labour Party in Wales is at best wary about continuing to back an idea which has been emphatically demonstrated to be a loser. But perhaps in Wales people are yearning for a time not so long past when the idea of Welsh politics seemed to be significant in a United Kingdom context.

After all, it was exciting to be at the centre of the political stage; to have a government *spending two legislative years* trying to establish Welsh and Scottish assemblies. It was certainly exciting for the nationalists as chief whips came calling on their MPs, asking after their health and their voting intentions.

But the election which followed the devolution referendum in 1979 is supposed to have demonstrated that, far from being a special case, politics in Wales were becoming more and more like those in England. That was shown, it was argued, by the fact that support for the Conservatives went up to a remarkable 32.2 per cent, Labour's share of the poll was down at 46.9 per cent and Plaid Cymru managed only just over 8 per cent.

That was perhaps a rather simplistic way of looking at the results, and it is equally possible to argue that politics in Wales have become more, rather than less, distinctive; to say that it was *devolution, in fact, which* forced the Conservative Party in particular to adopt a much clearer attitude towards Wales.

Whereas the Conservatives had insisted for many years that the future of Wales was inextricably bound up with that of the rest of the United Kingdom, they had, when Labour was making the running on devolution, to define their attitudes to Wales and to assert their own view of it.

It was, after all, a Conservative government which established the Commons Select Committee on Welsh Affairs which, while it was not intended as an answer to the devolution proposals, at least helped to legitimise the idea that there were distinctive Welsh problems which demanded a separate analysis.

And while it opposed the idea of setting up bodies like the Welsh Development Agency, the present Government has in fact been extremely solicitous, since taking office, to see that such organizations actually work.

So Welsh politics exist to some extent because *the organizations* exist – most notably the Welsh Office, which has been given increased power by each *successive government since the* first Secretary of State took office less than 20 years ago.

It seems to be institutional momentum as much as deliberate political policy which has brought about more Welsh-based, as distinct from class-based, politics in Wales, but it looks at first glance as though the Conservatives have been the main beneficiaries.

At the 1966 general election, Labour won 32 of the 36 Welsh seats. The Conservatives took three and the Liberals one. By 1979 Labour were hanging on to 21 seats, the Conservatives had 11, Plaid Cymru two and the Liberals one. (The odd one out is Cardiff West, represented by the Speaker, who was once a Labour MP.)

But there is a lot more to Welsh politics than a simple analysis which suggests the decline of Labour, the rise of the Conservatives (and, just possibly one day, the SDP) with *Plaid Cymru doodling around* at somewhere under 10 per cent of the poll and the Liberals, as ever, failing to represent in seats *their share of support.*

In individual constituencies voters have shown that they are capable of great volatility. Tactical voting was evident in Wales long before it became fashionable in Bermondsey and other places. It is impossible to escape the conclusion that Gwynfor Evans won Carmarthen for Plaid Cymru in 1974 because Conservative and Labour voters wanted Labour to lose. In the same way Labour lost Cardigan to the Liberals because Plaid Cymru and Conservative supporters decided to vote the anti-Labour ticket.

It would, though, be dangerous to underestimate the strength of the Labour Party in Wales, which is essentially cautious, respectable and traditionalist: last year, for instance, its annual conference voted for the expulsion of Militant. The party also retains its overwhelming control of local government in the areas of Wales in which councils are *politicized,* and *its* hold on traditional loyalties was demonstrated in the Gower by-election last September.

Labour certainly lost ground with a majority cut from 10,000 to 7,000; but the Conservatives fell back too, coming third after competing for votes with the SDP particularly in the middle-class areas of the constituency. But what was most impressive about a rather dull campaign was Labour's ability to retain its solid core of support.

Not many years ago the excitement about that by-election would probably have been created by Plaid Cymru, who mounted some staggering assaults on Labour majorities in the 1960s. But now Plaid Cymru seems rather to have lost its way as it tries to combine issue politics with a traditional party approach.

There is no doubt that it was damaged *by* the devolution episode; throwing out the idea of an assembly by a huge majority is a pretty dusty *answer to a party whose aim is* self-government for Wales.

The campaign for a Welsh language television channel *backed by a programme of civil* disobedience can be counted a success for Plaid Cymru.

But an attempt to create the *same kind of pressure over what* English authorities pay for Welsh water failed to make the same impact, despite the fact *that those with no nationalist* sympathies whatsoever are liable to turn purple when they open their bills from the Welsh Water Authority.

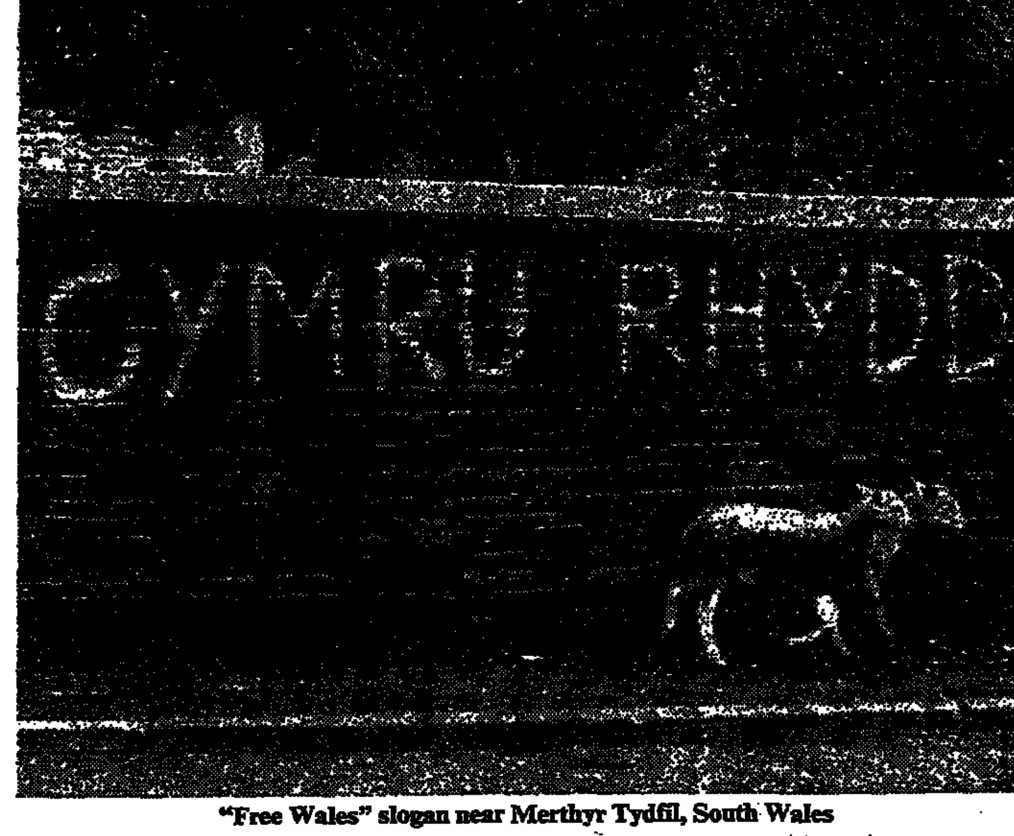
The last genuine test of Welsh political attitudes – the Gower by-election – put Plaid Cymry a bad fourth. The *party* desperately needs a much better performance before the next general election and further opportunities are likely to be available soon.

Two of Wale's leading politicians – Michael Roberts, the Conservative MP for Cardiff North-West, and Alec Jones, the Labour member for Rhondda, recently died suddenly within a few weeks of each other – sadly for those who like colour, energy and goodwill in their politics.

The Cardiff seat, it is generally felt, is naturally Tory, even if with only a 6,200 *majority.* But at the same time it is the kind of seat the SDP will have to win if it is to provide a really significant *presence in the next Parliament.*

Rhondda represents everything that industrial Welsh seats have always been said to be. A Labour majority of 31,000 testifies to the fierce loyalty the party commands there. A political mountaineer will need his oxygen bottles to climb over that lot. But even there the voters refuse to be taken for granted. When Jones was first elected 16 years ago, he had a majority of only 2,000 over Plaid Cymru.

Patrick Hannan
The BBC's Welsh Political Correspondent



"Free Wales" slogan near Merthyr Tydfil, South Wales

Aid brings in the new firms

Continued from previous page

club-maker at Newtown.

Inquiries for WDA factories are up about 15 per cent over the 1981-82 year, and allocations have increased by about 10 per cent. And the Welsh Office Industry Department offered £23.3m aid to 159 companies in the first 11 months of the last (1982-83) financial year, compared with £18.8m of selective aid to 138 projects during the whole of the previous year.

The formation of WINVEST shows that Wales is not resting on its laurels, and the WDA continues to look for fresh ways of making the region more attractive: hence its new-style advance factories which are more attractive and energy-saving and have *greater* flexibility. The first factories are being constructed at the Dafen industrial estate, Llanelli.

Mr John Pavitt, the WDA's technical development director, said: "What is happening today is that industrial and office-working conditions are gradually moving closer together. More and more industries want a pleasing environment to attract good staff and impress customers." The factories were designed after a survey of what industry wanted.

The setting up of the WDA's venture capital subsidiary, Hafren Investment Finance, was another initiative to bring jobs to fill the Agency's factories.

It also forms part of the shift of emphasis away from factory building. The agency completed *about 200 units last year, but* this was about half the previous 12 months.

Hafren was launched in the summer of *1982,* and has received more than 1,000 inquiries for aid. It will back businesses – especially with a *high technology content in its* products – with amounts from £10,000 to £100,000 in packages which can include shares and loans.

In less than a year it has invested more than £600,000 in about 15 companies, most of them coming from Wales. These include a business making satellite-television equipment and another in North Wales offering specialist diving services.

The agency has also ploughed £2.5m into Wales's first business centre for advanced technology – on the Deeside Industrial Park at Shotton. This will enable small businesses to work with research scientists.

The Development Board for Rural Wales adopted the Mid Wales Development title for its promotional work when it was given powers to offer grants to businesses.

According to Mr Leslie Morgan, the chairman: "when many of Britain's *rural* areas lost their assisted status in August, 1982, they lost everything they had to offer. Mid Wales did not. It has the board and a new grant."

Wales is the breeding ground for new ways of trying to counter economic problems. One of them, the Deeside Enterprise Trust, is a storehouse of guidance to companies *thinking of moving into or* expanding in Clwyd.

Mr Peter Summers, its managing director, said that it *will help anybody with a* workable idea. It might be that a company is looking for a factory or grants or a workforce – or just a *sympathetic* bank manager. The trust is backed by various organizations, including local industries, trade unions, banks and local authorities.

At the other end of Wales, the Neath Development Partnership has been instrumental in bringing workshop units to the area and devising schemes to boost tourism. The partnership grew out of an initiative by the Confederation of British Industry to help areas badly hit by the recession.

In another move, the Wales Trades Union Congress is setting up an advice centre with government, European Commission and WDA cash to encourage workers to form cooperative businesses.

European Commission money, including more than £150m from the Regional Development Fund, has helped improve the region's infrastructure. Now, there are high hopes that the region could capture the 5,000-job Nissan car plant. Three sites, at Cardiff, Newport and Shotton, are in the running.

Garrod Whatley
Industrial Editor, Western Mail

All ready for the upturn

Continued from previous page

the appointment of Mr MacGregor, has left the South Wales miners unusually apprehensive *about the future.*

In the current financial year the South Wales coalfield will lose more than £100m, making *it by far the most unprofitable* in Britain. Of the 33 pits in the valleys, 11 are losing more than £50 a tonne. Losses on this scale easily swallow up the profits made by the 11 pits which turn in a good financial performance.

Local miners' leaders constantly claim that the Coal Board has a hit list of up to 12 pits it would like to close. While this is routinely denied by the Board, it seems likely there will be moves to close another two pits over the next 12 months.

In North Wales the quarrying of slate has long ceased to be a major source of employment and the industry now employs only some 400 people. But old mines, such as Llechwedd at Blaenau Ffestiniog, have been reopened as tourist attractions and their effect on the economy of the area has been startling.

The slimdown of the steel plant and retraction of dependent industries has alerted new industrialists to the availability of a highly skilled workforce. Statistics prove categorically that their reputation for being strike-happy just is not true.

Japanese companies have found that the workers adapt readily to new management styles and produce work of high quality. At Shotton, British Steel Industry has been working closely with the Welsh Development Agency to attract new industry and there are new companies established on the site of the steel works. Since 1978 BSC Industry in Wales has helped to create, expand or relocate 320 companies in the Principality, involving 13,000 job commitments.

More good news from the Principality came *last* month from Mr Meiron Lewis, chief executive of the Development Corporation of Wales. He said *that in the next six months* five European firms, five American and three from Japan were expected to announce decisions *to set up in Wales.*

This month the Wales TUC will be releasing details of the Wales Co-operative Development and Training Scheme, which will aim at the creation of 1,000 new jobs in the next three years. Already the centre, which will have a full-time director, has been promised £100,000 from local authorities, the same amount from the Welsh Office, £60,000 from the European Social Fund and £45,000 from the Welsh Development Agency.

Throughout the Principality there is a very cautious optimism that the worse may be over. No one underestimates the problems but there is a belief that from the lessons of steel, Wales can emerge with a healthy and more diversified industrial base.

T.J.

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TOURISM

Welcoming the greenery back to the valleys

Stereotyped images are hard to erase. Just as Snowdonia is known to be beautiful, so the South Wales valleys are thought of as unmitigatingly miserable – grim, depressing places that the tourist has to motor through on his way to the Brecon Beacons, the undulating richness of Mid-Wales and the high grandeur of the North.

But the tourist should stop and investigate, for as the great industries of coal and steel have declined so the valleys are being returned to the kind of beauty they had before they were ravaged by the industrial revolution. Soon there will be only one pit left in the Rhondda valley, an area that was once synonymous with the production of coal.

The National Coal Board has spent millions of pounds on removing and landscaping pits and once-harsh hillsides have been transformed into attractive wooded vistas.

As part of its effort to capture an increased share of the British tourist market, the Wales Tourist Board is cooperating with local councils in promoting a "Visit the Valleys" campaign. Six thousand brochures are being printed, extolling the virtues of the two Rhondda valleys, which also offer a treasurehouse of discovery for the student of industrial history.

Further west, private and public bodies have combined to form the Neath Development Partnership, which recently announced a £3.5m development, embracing nine separate projects which link existing facilities in the Gower Peninsula, Swansea, and West Glamorgan with the Brecon Beacons.

The partnership hopes that the scheme will provide 600 new jobs in an area that suffers an unemployment rate of more than 18 per cent, and its attractions are geared to creating a balance of interest for all members of the family. While some visitors will enjoy a leisurely canal trip, others will be able to ski down the most extensive main slope in Britain. Some of the attractions already exist and last year one of them, the Penscynor Wildlife Park, attracted more than 215,000 visitors.

The scheme is an interesting example of how both sides of industry can combine, for the backers include British Petroleum, British Steel Industry, Thomson International, Metal Box, PSA Management Consultants, the borough council, the Wales TUC, the Welsh Development Agency and the chairman of the West Glamorgan County Council Education Committee.

Tourism is big business in Wales and the latest figures show that in one year more than eleven million British visitors spent more than £450m in the Principality. An estimated £50m more was spent by 400,000 foreign visitors.

The splendid natural scenery and magnificent castles continue to act like magnets, but the changing pattern of holidays is causing concern to hoteliers. Research carried out by the Wales Tourist Board points to a continuing and worrying decline in the market for the traditional holiday of seven or fourteen nights in seaside hotels.

A report by the board stated: "We cannot put all the blame on factors outside our control. Wales has allowed its share of long holidays to slip by, failing to increase spending on publicity and promotion at a time when there was increased competition from within Britain and abroad.

"Nor was tourism helped by the impression that Wales was no longer a welcoming country. Acts of vandalism or protest seen by visitors in holiday areas, including the burning of cottages and the daubing of road signs, strengthened that view."



Barry Island: a well established holiday resort

Being cruel to be kind, the Board has criticized local authorities and the trade for not spending enough on publicity. Wales, the Board maintains, is losing hundreds of millions of pounds of revenue because the country is not being properly promoted.

The overriding complaint made by visitors to Wales is the lack of facilities and things to do when the weather is bad. It is a myth that it always rains in Wales, although when the high mountains catch the clouds on their western edge the results can be pretty spectacular.

Wet Sundays in Wales are now far less miserable for the tourist, for, following the latest septennial referendum on the issue, only two small areas prevent public houses from opening on that day.

While some resorts still offer little more than their natural beauty, Rhyddlan Borough Council has responded magnificently to the demand for more amenities by building at Rhyl a magnificent all-weather sun centre. There, for a reasonable entrance charge, a family can spend a whole day having fun, swimming and surfing in what must be one of the most imaginative ventures in the tourist field in Britain. Last year more than 500,000 people visited it to make it the top tourist attraction in Wales.

Further down the North Wales coast, Llandudno, elegant and peaceful in its sun trap setting has built a modern conference centre to expand its share of the talking trade.

Cardiff, the capital city, has recently joined the major conference league with the opening of the St David's Hall, a fine complex which has as its core a fine auditorium, capable of seating 2,000 people. It has already played host to a national Social Democratic Party conference and the city council hopes that eventually it will attract between ten and twenty conferences a year. In August, Cardiff Castle, itself a marvellous monument, is the stage for the annual searchlight tattoo, a spectacular and colourful pageant which easily rivals the one held at Edinburgh.

Culturally, there are still few greater experiences than hearing a full-blown Welsh male voice choir in full song. These dedicated amateurs continue to thrive and when two mighty choirs clash in competition the contest is as keenly fought as any cup final.

Cardiff is also the home of the Welsh National Opera Company, whose scintillating performances have been acclaimed throughout the world. The City's culture is completed by fine theatres, where shows are often performed before they go on for a West End run.

Many of the performances are backed by the Welsh Arts Council, which treads a precarious course between giving assured value for money through the presentation of tried and trusted favourites while venturing occasionally into the realms of experimental theatre.

Its critics maintain that it does not give sufficient encouragement to Welsh writers. However, its support of Yr Academi Gymreig (The Welsh Academy), which promotes poetry and literature and has funded many workshops to encourage new writers, may indicate otherwise.

As a whole, Wales – weather, warts and all – provides an astonishing range of leisure and cultural activities for the tourist. From the sandy beaches of Cardigan Bay to the born-again valleys, its range of holidays ranks with any to be found elsewhere in Britain.

T. J.

LANGUAGE

The Welsh Not in reverse

After lying empty and forlorn for 20 years, the tiny hidden village of Nant Gwrtheyrn on the Lleyn Peninsula, in the Welsh heartland of Gwynedd, has been revived and rebuilt into a study centre for the Welsh language. Its renovation from the ruins of derelict cottages has become a symbol for the language itself. Almost submerged by the policies and pop culture of the 1950s and 1960s, defenders of the language have staged a counter punching fight back to ensure its position as the strongest of the old Celtic tongues.

But if battles have been won, the war for the future of *yr hen iaith* (the old language) still rages, albeit at a much reduced rate, and the number of speakers is declining. Only 500,000 people now speak Welsh and they are to be found primarily in the west of the principality, which was largely bypassed by the effects of the debilitating industrial revolution.

Engulfed by a powerful neighbour with an international tongue, it is surprising that Welsh has survived at all. Parliaments, aided more often than not by Welsh members, decreed that the language should die and instituted measures to bury it. The most emotive was the Welsh Not, the board which was hung around the neck of any child heard speaking the language during the school day. The last to wear it was thrashed. The fact that children in some schools in Wales are now gently reprimanded if they are heard speaking English indicates dramatically how the wheel is turning.

Among the vast majority of monoglot English-speaking people there is a strong caucus who maintain they are discriminated against because of their inability to speak Welsh. In Gwynedd recently parents complained against the county council's declared policy of making all school children bilingual.

Their protest was led by English parents who have settled in Wales and the growing influx of families from across Offa's Dyke into the Welsh areas is creating a growing friction. At its most extreme, the fight to preserve the language and culture has led to the burning of holiday homes and more than 50 of them have now been attacked. The Welsh Language Society, which dissociates itself from the arson, claims Welsh communities are undermined by outsiders who buy cottages at prices local people cannot afford.

The Welsh Language Society, which has just celebrated its twentieth anniversary has embarked on a new campaign to compel education authorities to make better provision for bilingual education. At present, each of the eight authorities has its own policies and the society argues, a new board should be established to strengthen Welsh medium education throughout the land.

Crude research by the society estimates that such a body would require funding at an annual rate of £30m, a sum which in the present economic climate seems wildly optimistic. In any event Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales has said that such a body would be "counter productive".

During his term of office, Mr Edwards has had much first hand experience of the wrath of the language zealots. His car has been ambushed and personal abuse heaped on him by extremists. In spite of that, he has managed to secure more money for Welsh education and voluntary organizations than the sums given by previous administrations and has publicly stated his commitment to the language.

The single biggest breakthrough in the fight for the survival of the language occurred last November when S4C, the Welsh language television station, was launched in Cardiff.

In spite of the establishment of the channel, regarded by many as the ultimate anchor for the language, the fight will continue. The Welsh Language Society plans another campaign against what it perceives to be the weaknesses of the 1967 Welsh Language Act which gave the language equal validity in courts of law with English. According to society members all official documents should be available in both languages as a matter of course. The battles and efforts to save the tongue have been impressive but the outcome of the war remains uncertain. It is a fight that only the Welsh can win, for without their commitment no amount of government aid or subsidized television can prevent the slow decline of their language.

T.J.

MARKET REPORT ● by Michael Clark

Bid for Bilton falters

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings Began, April 11. Dealings end, April 22. Contango Day, April 25. Settlement Day, May 3.

Trust Securities' daring £104m bid for civil engineer and property developer Percy Bilton was teetering on the brink of failure last night.

The National Coal Pension Fund has announced it sold nearly 1 million shares out of its total holding of 4.6 million shares (12.38 per cent of the equity) at about 274p earlier this week. Dealers said this reflected the belief among many institutions that the bid would fail and they would cash in their hands while the going was good.

Yesterday shares of Percy Bilton were unchanged at 288p – some 35p above Trust's original shares, convertible and cash offer worth 255p a share.

However, Mr Peter Jones, chairman of the much smaller Trust Securities, was undeterred. "I am extremely confident still. There is still no sign of the rumoured revaluation from Rilton and perhaps the institutions are now lacking confidence that there will be one", he said.

Investors have until next week to decide whether to accept the bid, but with still no sign of a white knight or higher offer from Trust the battle looks like a first round knockout for Bilton. Shares of Trust closed 1p lower at 83p.

That old bid favourite, Associated Fisheries, is back on investors' shopping lists this week closing 3p up yesterday at a new high of 67p. Word is the group has been presented with a bid of 120p a share. Last night the company was unavailable for comment.

Meanwhile, the latest cut in bank base rates of ½ point to 10 per cent was discounted by the market as share prices spent a quiet time for most of the day, before a late burst of support from Wall Street saw prices close at their best levels of the day.

Blue chips were again singled out for attention including ICI 10p up at a new high of 426p, after yesterday's article in *The Times* on brokers Wood Mackenzie's upgrading of profits. The Americans also came in for **Beechams** a similar figure higher at 413p and Glaxo up £13/32 at £8 21/32 The *FT* Index closed 1.8 higher at 688.9.

Gilts spent another lacklustre day with the new tap 10.5 per cent 1989 managing to close with a gain fo £⅛ on the partly paid price of £25 when dealing began. Less than half the £1,000m of stock offered was applied for.

The rest of the market recovered earlier falls of £¼ to close unchanged on the day as the pound gained 0.4 cents to $1.5405 on the foreign exchange.

The better than expected full year figures from **Rio Tinto-Zinc** gave a fillip to the rest of the mining finance sector with the shares climbing 40p to 584p after achieving pretax profits only £7m less than last year's figure of £348m.

As a result the chartists reckon the whole sector is worthy of a buy including **Consolidated Gold Fields 12p to 539p and Charter Consolidated 7p lower at 243p.**

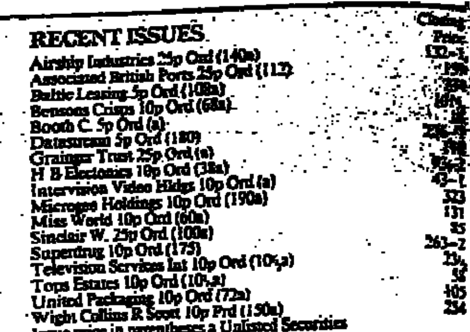
Shares of Fidelity Radio jumped 10p to 180p last night after the group had unveiled its new cordless telephone at the Savoy Hotel yesterday. Already it has received orders from British Telecom. Last year Fidelity reduced losses from £3m to £245,000.

One of the highlights of yesterday's session was the market debut of Mr Eric Morley's **Miss World Group.** Brokers Schaverein placed 810,000 shares, or 42 per cent of the company, at 60p with various institutions. The first price quoted on the jobbers' boards was 133p – a premium of 73p in first time dealings – and valuing the company at £2.5m. By the close the shares had settled at 131p. Mr Morley said he was pleased to see the market judging the company as a commercial enterprise.

Overshadowed by Miss World's debut was first time dealings in **Bensons Crisps.** First time dealings of the shares on the Unlisted Securities Market saw a premium of 33p over the placing price of 68p.

It looks as though Mr Michael Ashcroft's **Kean & Scott** wants to get a full quotation as soon as possible. The Unlisted Securities Market company has just completed a successful bid for the furniture group Alpine Holdings.

In electricals little **Arlen Electrical** jumped 15p to 300p buoyed up by hopes of lucrative orders for its new starter motor from the Hanover Trade Fair. Mr Arthur Levy, chairman, returned from the show yesterday. Bid talk was again good for 3½p on **Ranks Hovis McDougall** at 63p. S & W Berisford hold 15 per cent of the shares and is thought to be poised to sell its stake to another bidder.



RECENT ISSUES

Airship Industries 25p Ord (140a)
Associated British Ports 25p Ord (112)
Baltic Leasing 5p Ord (108a)
Bensons Crisps 10p Ord (68a)
Booth C. 5p Ord (a)
Datastream 5p Ord (180)
Grainger Trust 25p Ord (a)
H B Electonics 10p Ord (38a)
Intervision Video Hldgs 10p Ord (a)
Microgen Holdings 10p Ord (190a)
Miss World 10p Ord (60a)
Sinclair W. 25p Ord (100a)
Superdrug 10p Ord (175)
Television Services Int 10p Ord (10½a)
Tops Estates 10p Ord (10½a)
United Packaging 10p Ord (72a)
Wight Collins R Scott 10p Prd (150a)
Issue price in parentheses a Unlisted Securities

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
180½	120	Hill P. Inv	180½	..	9.9	5.5	
362	240	Invest in Suc	350	..	7.4	2.1	

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) April 14	Market rates (close) April 14	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.5300-1.5425	$1.5400-1.5410	0.17-0.12c prem	0.32-0.27c prem
Montreal	$1.8875-1.9010	$1.8985-1.8995	0.20-0.10c prem	0.35-0.25c prem
Amsterdam	4.20⅝-4.24½fl	4.23¾-4.24¾fl	1⅞-1⅝c prem	5-4½c prem
Brussels	74.40-74.95f	74.80-74.90f	5-15c disc	13-23c disc
Copenhagen	13.27-13.34k	13.32½-13.33½k	250-395ore disc	675-825ore disc
Dublin	1.1820-1.1920p	1.1880-1.1900p	55-70p disc	125-145p disc
Frankfurt	3.73¾-3.76¾m	3.75½-3.76½m	2-1½pf prem	4⅞-4⅜pf prem
Lisbon	149.25-151.75e	150.50-151.50e	370-1370c disc	660-2195c disc
Madrid	208.30-209.90p	209.65-209.85p	180-260c disc	465-580c disc
Milan	2225-2237lr	2233-2235lr	9-12lr disc	32-37lr disc
Oslo	10.96-11.03k	11.01½-11.02½k	230-335ore disc	795-925ore disc
Paris	11.20-11.27f	11.25½-11.26½f	1¼-2¼c disc	8½-10½c disc
Stockholm	11.49-11.57k	11.55½-11.56½k	25-100ore disc	190-290ore disc
Tokyo	365½-368½y	366¾-367¾y	135-110y prem	380-330y prem
Vienna	26.25-26.50sch	26.42-26.47sch	12-10gro prem	32-27gro prem
Zurich	3.14½-3.17f	3.15¾-3.16¾f	1¾-1¼c prem	4⅞-4¾c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was down 0.4 at 82.4

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 10%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 10 Low 1

Week Fixed: 10¼-10

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	9⅞	2 months	9⅞
3 months	9⅞	3 months	9¾

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	10⅛-10	1 month	10⅛
2 months	9⅞-9⅞	2 months	10⅛
3 months	9⅞-9⅞	3 months	10⅛
6 months	9⅞-9⅞	6 months	10⅛

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	11-10⅞	7 months	n.a.
2 months	10⅞-10⅞	8 months	n.a.
3 months	10⅞-10⅞	9 months	10½-10
4 months	10½-10⅛	10 months	n.a.
5 months	10⅛-10	11 months	n.a.
6 months	10⅛-9⅞	12 months	10½-10

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

1 month	10⅛-10⅛	6 months	10⅛-10
3 months	10⅛-10⅛	12 months	10⅛-10

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	10½	3 months	10⅛
7 days	10½	6 months	10
1 month	10⅛	1 year	10

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 10⅛ Close 5

1 week	10⅛-10⅛	6 months	10⅛-10
1 month	10⅛-10⅛	9 months	10⅛-10
3 months	10⅛-10⅛	12 months	10⅛-10

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)

3 months 10⅛-10⅛ 6 months 10⅛-10⅛

Finance House Base Rate 11½%

Other Markets

Australia	1.7600-1.7750
Bahrein	0.5785-0.5795
Finland	8.3170-8.3570
Greece	127.45-129.45
Hongkong	10.36-10.40
Iran	n.a.
Kuwait	0.4460-0.4490
Malaysia	3.5260-3.5560
Mexico	225.0-250.0
New Zealand	2.3235-2.3435
Saudi Arabia	5.2800-5.3100
Singapore	3.230-3.250
South Africa	1.6710-1.6860

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.2952-1.2962
+ Canada	1.2326-1.2329
Netherlands	2.7485-2.7500
Belgium	48.57-48.62
Denmark	8.6550-8.6600
West Germany	2.4390-2.4400
Portugal	97.70-98.75
Spain	136.10-136.20
Italy	1451.0-1452.0
Norway	7.1625-7.1675
France	7.3100-7.3150
Sweden	7.5010-7.5060
Japan	238.25-238.40
Austria	17.155-17.165
Switzerland	2.0475-2.0495

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
+ Canada $1: US $0.8108-0.8111

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 9⅛-8⅞; seven days, 9-8¾; one month, 9⅛-9; three months, 9⅛-8¾; six months, 9½-8⅞.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $436.25 (an ounce); pm, $435.50 close, $436.00.
Krugerrand* (per coin): $448.00-449.50 (£291.50-292.50).
Sovereigns* (new): $102.30-103.50 (£66.75-67.50).
* Excludes VAT

MISCELLANEOUS

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
40½	31	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£37½	..	500	13.3	..
40	17½	Gt Nthn Tele	£48	+½	91.5	1.9	19.3
158	55	Milford Docks	80	..	0.7	0.9	..
135	78	Nesco Inv	83	..	10.0	12.0	..
40½	31	Sunderlnd Wtr	£36½	..	500	13.7	..

● Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

Investment and Finance

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 688.9 up 1.8
FT Gilts: 82.11, down 0.13
FT All Share: 435.70, up 2.68
Bargains: 25,167
Tring Hall USM Index: 171.2, up 0.7

New York: Dow Jones Average (midday) 1,154.02, down 2.62

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling $1.5405, up 40pts
Index 82.4, down 0.4
DM 3.7600
FF 11.2600
Yen 367.27
Dollar
Index 122.7, up 0.3
DM 2.4395, up 20pts

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Base rates 10-$10\frac{1}{2}$
3 month interbank $10\frac{3}{16}$-$10\frac{1}{16}$

Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar $9\frac{3}{8}$-$\frac{1}{4}$
3 month DM $5\frac{1}{16}$-$4\frac{15}{16}$
3 month FrF $13\frac{1}{4}$-$13\frac{1}{4}$

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period March 2 to April 5 1983 inclusive: 10.974 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

Brettoy 38p, up 8p
Ruter Elec 44p, up 6p
BK (H) 70p, up 9p
Hanson Fin 32p, up 4p
Energy Serv 43p, up $4\frac{1}{2}$
Pentos 10p, up 1p
TKO 73p, down 8p
Hollas 24p down 29
Rockware 38p, down 3p
Charterhall 43p, down 3p
IP Kent 46p, down 3p
Howard Mach 18p, down 1p

TODAY

Interims: Adwest, Berry Trust, Linread Lowland Investment Trust, Ulster Television.
Finals: Blackwood Hodge, De Beers Consolidated Mines, *Dewhurst Dent*, *Hunting* Petroleum Services, Leyland Paint & Wallpaper, F Miller Textiles, Scottish Television
Economic statistics; Index of industrial production (February, provisional), usable steel production (March).

Takeover blow for Bassishaw

The Takeover Panel has turned down an attempt by Bassishaw to offer loanstock as an alternative to its 130p bid for UDS. It is now asking UDS shareholders not to accept the higher Hanson bid until they have seen its offer document to be published on Monday. It will ask if shareholders are prepared to sacrifice jobs in the high street for the sake of $3\frac{1}{2}$p, the difference between the two cash offers.

Bassishaw's offer has been extended for another 14 days.

Both Hanson and two dissenting UDS directors have put out statements criticizing the UDS board's decision to recommend the lower Bassishaw offer.

● **OCTOPUS VALUE:** Octopus Publishing Group will be worth at least £30.1m when it becomes a public company later this month. The highly regarded publisher of glossy, full-colour books is being brought to the market by way of a tender offer with a minimum price of 275p by N M Rothschild.

Investors' notebook, page 19

● **TAKEOVER HITCH:** Kwik-Fit attempt to sort out the potential conflict of interest with Crest International by taking it over has foundered again. Although Kwik-Fit's merchant bank, Samuel Montagu, said it had established bid terms satisfactory to the institutional shareholders of Kwik-Fit, the National Association of Pension Funds has for the second time voiced its misgivings. So there is the unusual situation of a bid acceptable to the bidder's shareholders, but not the offerer's.

● **PROFITS RECORD:** Pre-tax profits of West Midlands-based Ash and Lacy have topped for the first time £3m. In 1982, they expanded by 31 per cent to £3.07m. Mr J. F. Vernon, the chairman, tells shareholders that this was achieved in spite of a recession "comparable in its severity to that between the two world wars". The total dividend, gross, is being boosted from 20p to 25.71p a share.

Wall St stocks down 5 points

New York (AP Dow Jones) – Wall Street stocks pulled back from an early advance yesterday.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell about five points to 1151 after starting the session with a gain of 1.5.

Advancing issues' lead over declines narrowed to five-to-four.

International Business Machines fell $\frac{7}{8}$ at $107\frac{7}{8}$. It reported a rose in first quarter net to $1.62 a share from $1.33 and the stock fell $1\frac{1}{2}$ before recovering.

General Motors rose $\frac{7}{8}$ at $62\frac{3}{8}$; **General Electric** fell $\frac{1}{4}$ at $107\frac{3}{4}$; **American Telephone & Telegraph** rose $\frac{1}{8}$ at 65; **Honeywell** off $\frac{5}{8}$ at $92\frac{1}{8}$; **International Paper** fell $1\frac{3}{8}$ to 53; **Exxon** off $\frac{1}{4}$ to $32\frac{3}{8}$; **General Dynamics** fell $\frac{1}{4}$ to 44 and **Lockheed** rose $2\frac{7}{8}$ to 111.

Fleetwood at $24\frac{3}{4}$ was up $\frac{1}{8}$; **Aydin** at $52\frac{3}{4}$ was up $\frac{1}{2}$; **Motorola** at $108\frac{1}{8}$ was down $\frac{3}{8}$; **Whirlpool** at $53\frac{1}{8}$ was up $\frac{5}{8}$; **Teledyne** at $146\frac{3}{4}$ was down $1\frac{3}{8}$; **Warner Communications** at $25\frac{5}{8}$ was unchanged; **Hewlett Packard** at $79\frac{1}{8}$ was down 1.

Britain 'uniquely placed' to prevent market falls says minister

Lawson defends intervention to stabilize world oil prices

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

The world's oil market appears to have stabilized, and a third oil price shock is unlikely, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Secretary of State for Energy, said yesterday.

In what amounts to the first full defence of the Government's recent intervention to prevent futher sharp falls in the price of North Sea oil, Mr Lawson said that, as a leading trading nation and oil exporter, Britain was uniquely placed to determine where the Western world's best interests on oil prices lay.

While oil prices would inevitably be determined by the balance of supply and demand, Britain had an interest in smoothing out the imperfections of the market.

"We have sufficient experience of the effects of oil shocks, of the cost of economic adjustment, to recognize the desirability of doing what we can to avoid unnecessary fluctuations and to achieve equilibrium by the smoothest possible route" he said.

"The British national oil corporation's pricing proposals have had this objective very much in mind. Not that BNOC can stop North Sea prices from going where the market takes them, but it can allow time for the market's expectations to settle down, reducing the danger of an initial overreaction and so minimizing unnecessary disruption."

The Goverment's pressure on oil companies not to push too hard for further reductions in the North Sea price for fear of wrecking last month's Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries pricing agreement is acknowledged to have helped to restore some stability to the turbulent market.

"The market does, indeed, appear to have stabilized," Mr Lawson said. "If so, it is hard to see a third oil shock of the nature of either of those we experienced in the Seventies."

The 1973 price rise was a "once for all" adjustment, whereas the 1979-80 increase resulted from a buyers' panic, from which lessons have been learnt, he said.

One company which has still not accepted the new prices proposed by the British National Oil Corporation is Britoil, controversially privatized last November. Mr Philip Shelbourne, Britoil's chairman, confirmed yesterday that Britoil was still in discussions with BNOC about the corporation's right to backdate its new prices to the beginning of February.

While welcoming the Budget's tax concessions, Mr Shelbourne repeated his call for all North Sea oil taxes to be replaced by corporation tax alone to bring the oil industry into line with other industries.

Mr Shelbourne said at the first annual results press conference since privatization, that he was optimistic about the company's likely share performance in the medium-term.

Britoil confirmed it is in discussions with Amerada Hess and other United States oil companies about acquiring American exploration and production interests. The company also disclosed that a £80m drilling rig being built at Scott Lithgo was running at least a year behind schedule.

● Mr Hamish Gray, Energy Minister, said yesterday a substantial number of applications may soon be forthcoming to develop North Sea oil and gas fields. "We could be on the verge of a flood of applications," he said.

Six applications are already under discussion, three of which date from after last month's Budget which increased incentives to develop marginal fields.

A second batch of five applications, mainly to develop oil fields, is expected before the end of the year, he said.

● Sellers of the key North Sea Brent oil yesterday raised their quotes on the European spot market in Rotterdam to just over the official price of $30 a barrel, oil traders said.

Money growth likely to exceed target

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

The most closely watched measure of the money supply, sterling M3, rose by 0.9 per cent in the four weeks to mid-March, the Bank of England confirmed yesterday. This was the biggest monthly increase since last autumn.

An equally rapid or more rapid increase is expected in the April period because of the surge in government borrowing in March revealed on Wednesday.

As a result, money growth in the first two months of the target period which began in February and runs to April next year is likely to nudge or top the 7 to 11 per cent band.

This has been one factor behind the Bank of England's reluctance to sanction an early cut in bank base lending rates, which might have been quickly followed by pressure for more.

City analysts estimate that over the target period as a whole money growth can be contained within the 7 to 11 per cent range, even if public borrowing overshoots the £8,000m target for 1983-4 by up to £2,000m.

To stay within the midpoint of the range, money growth would have to average 0.75 per cent in March but the broad measure of private sector liquidity, PSL2, which includes building society deposits, increased by 1.3 per cent.

City Comment

Clausen's cupboard is bare

"Concessional funds", Mr A. W. "Tom" Clausen, president of the World Bank, said yesterday, "are the scarcest commodity on planet earth bar none." He should know. Although Mr Clausen would not say it in so many works, bank officials admit that the outlook is gloomy for the International Development Association, the bank's soft loan arm.

The chances of the IDA obtaining from the 33 member governments the full $18,000m it needs in the seventh replenishment to maintain the real value of its resources are diminishing rapidly.

Otherwise well-disposed governments, such as the British, are growing weary of endless obstructions on Capitol Hill to the full disbursement of IDA 6, let alone IDA 7. This has been one of the main reasons for Mr Clausen's European grand tour.

He has reminded the British Government this week of the mutual advantages of aid, stressed the ability of the World Bank to borrow at the narrowest spreads for 25 years while commercial banks would prefer to reduce their Third World exposure, and suggested that the big countries should commit themselves at Williamsburg to maintain development assistance at a reasonable level.

This mesage will be repeated all over Europe and in the Far East. But the tone is defensive. Maintaining assistance at "reasonable levels" is a far cry from asking for real increases.

Yet the importance of IDA 7, and indeed of the World Bank's mainstream activities, is undiminished. The poorest of the world need more rather than less help. It is, therefore, unfortunate that so far the private sector has responded in a lukewarm way to the bank's co-financing proposals.

Rio Tinto shares jump 40p

By Sally White

Profits of Rio Tinto-Zinc, the international mining and industrial group, were higher than had been expected last year. At the pretax level, profits dipped to £341m from £348m and the net profit attributable to shareholders was higher at £103.5m against £102.3m.

But the company has sounded a note of caution: "While there are some signs that limited recovery is beginning to appear in a number of Western economies, most importantly in the United States, it is not yet broadly based."

The company says that supplies of basic raw materials tend to experience the impact of changes in business activity rather late in the cycle and it is likely to be towards the end of this yea. or even in to 1984, before the full benefits of any economic revival are realized in terms of the group's operating results.

But the shares rose sharply, up 40p at 584p.

Group sales rose from £3.020m to £3.680m. The inclusion of £400m from sales of Tunnel Holdings and Thos. W. Ward accounted for most of this increase. Borax and Hamersley, the iron-ore interests, and Rossing, the uranium company, achieved significantly higher sales.

Investors' notebook, page 19

'Delighted' Miss World chief Mr Eric Morley with former title holders yesterday

Miss World in demand

By Michael Clark

A broker in drag and a bevy of beauties greeted Mr Eric Morley's Miss World debut on the London Stock Exchange yesterday as the beauty competition he introduced more than 30 years ago was offered to the public.

About 42 per cent of the shares in Miss World Group were offered, representing *810,000* shares at *60p* each. But when dealings began the first price marked on dealers' pitches showed a figure of 133p, valuing the group at £2.5m.

Mr Morley, who with his wife Julia, the managing director, owns 51.28 per cent of the shares, was delighted with the market's response.

For the current year to December 31, the group has forecast pretax profits of £300,000 *compared* with a figure of only £156,000 last year.

ABP beats profit forecast

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Associated British Ports
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit £5.5m (£10.3m loss)
Turnover £152m (£128m)
Net dividend nil
Share price 159p

Associated British Ports has had a good first quarter although the level of trade has not shown any significant improvement yet, Mr Keith Stuart, the chariman, said yesterday as the group announced 1982 profits just ahead of forecast.

Compared with the £5.4m pretax forecast at the time of the heavily-oversubscribed offer for sale in February, ABP turned in £5.5m.

Allowing for changes in the group's capital structure since the year-end and new arrangements with British Steel, the underlying profit after £3.6m of severance payments was £8.9m last year.

Sotheby's seeks a better suitor

By Our Financial Staff

The formal offer document detailing the terms of the £60.6m bid by two New York financiers and art collectors for Sotherby Parke Barnet was dispatched yesterday to the company's shareholders amid growing speculation in the stock market that Sotherby's will not be able to find a more acceptable suitor.

Sotherby's is expected to respond next week to the opening of the formal bid proceedings with a defence document which is likely to predict a return to profits of more than £1m in the year to August.

Yesterday's 520p a share offer document from Mr Marshall Cogan and Mr Stephen Swid, attempts to cast doubt on the threat by the company's 133 art experts that they will resign if the two Americans gain control.

"We are confident that these professionals, whom we regard as essential to the revitalization of Sotherby's, would in the event find that we would create an excellent managerial environment in which to work."

They added: "We trust that, upon further reflection, the directors and experts will not take any action that might harm Sotherby's. That the directors, upon mature reflection, will recommend the offer."

Mr Gordon Brunton, Sotheby chairman, pledged himself to finding an alternative solution to the company's predicament.

Mr Graham Llewellyn, chief executive, who has been cautioned by the Takeover Panel for the way he has condemned the American bid, said: "What really sticks in the gullet about all this is that having done all the soul-destroying restructuring of the last year, these two Americans have come along to try and reap the rewards. We bitterly resent this approach."

London Brick sell-off

By Jeremy Warner

London Brick
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit £15.33m (£11.15m)
Turnover £137.4m (£127.9m)
Net final dividend 3.55p making 5.5p (4.89p)

London Brick had sold for £3m a business it bought 10 years ago for £7m to London and Midland Industries, the industrial services and engineering company.

The two groups yesterday concluded arrangements for London and Midland to buy Banbury and Gardens, which makes pre-fabricated home extentions, garages and greenhouses.

London and Midland already owns Compton Buildings, which is in the same business and is one of the group's more successful subsidiaries.

Announcing annual profits slightly ahead of the £15m it forecast at the time of its bid for rival brick maker Ibstock Johnsen, London Brick said yesterday that it was selling Banbury because it has been unprofitable.

However, Mr Bill Beddow, London and Midland chairman, was confident that it could be turned round and to yield the 10 per cent plus on sales that Compton makes "in less than two years."

About 2.7 million London and Midland shares were yesterday placed in the stock market at 112p to pay for the acquisition.

London Brick's profits rose from £11.2m to £15.3m last year, an increase of nearly 37 per cent.

Mr Jeremy Rowe, chairman, said: "The substantial improvement in our pretax profits reflects our success in a year of achievement and change.

Auditors' check at Home Video

Mr Jack Gill, new chairman of Home Video, has looked into the company's cupboard and found a few skeletons.

According to Mr Gill, several deals which the company had entered into last year were not going to produce the expected results. In the light of this information these "doubtful" agreements and deals have been investigated by the group's auditors Peat, Marwick, Mitchell. The deals could cost the company about £850,000. In addition, the company has made provisions for a further £185,000 to take into account discontinued activities.

Unaudited accounts for the six months to December 31, now show £1.72m losses. The company is now in touch with its solicitors to try and reclaim some of losses.

Kissinger urges overhaul of monetary system

Call for new Bretton Woods

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Dr Henry Kissinger, the former US Secretary of State, and a group of influential European and American officials will convene a special meeting in Washington next month to try to persuade the Reagan Administration to agree to an overhaul of the international monetary system.

Dr Kissinger has said repeatedly that the present system of floating exchange rates has been a disaster which has created permanent economic instability.

He and other like-minded officials, including Otto Graf von Lambsdorf, the Western German finance minister, intend to press the Administration to agree to a new international conference on exchange rates.

The group will also attempt to persuade important members of President Reagan's cabinet who have been invited to the conference on May 17 that the issue of exchange rates should be a priority item at the Williamsburg economic summit on May 28.

The Kissinger initiative is one of several recent attempts by US officials and private executives to focus attention on what they regard as a potentially dangerous lack of coordination of international economic and trade policies.

Mr Donald Regan, the US Treasury Secretary, and Mr William Brock, the top US trade official, announced this week that they had invited finance and trade ministers from the seven summit nations to a special joint meeting in Paris next month.

This meeting of western ministers is believed to be the first of its kind and will be held after the Organizsation for Economic Cooperation and Development Paris conference on May 9.

Mr R T McNamar, the US Treasury Undersecretary, said the aim is to achieve greater coordination of economic and trade policies by Western nations in their dealings with each other and with less developed countries.

The severe world debt crisis of the last year has highlighted the need for Western nations to develop economic and trade policies which will allow developed nations whose economies are dependent on these continued sales, Mr McNamar said.

Over the last year, European heads of state have been urging the Administration to reconsider its non-intervention policy

● Mr Leslie Dicks-Mireaux, a special adviser to the Bank of England, yesterday said the US may be swinging towards considering cooperating with other countries to intervene on foreign exchange markets.

He was careful in the words he chose to express the possibility of a turnround in US opinion on intervention. But he gave the impression that the American position was changing and that the results would become clear after the Williamsburg summit.

Mr Dicks-Mireaux, while defending the role of intervention in reducing volatility, nevertheless stressed that such cooperation would be nothing more than an interim measure.

He argued that there was increasing urgency to create an international monetary system that would assure greater stability. There was growing European disenchantment with the regime of floating exchange rates, mainly because of the volatility it had caused, he said.

Industrial notebook

The cheap petrol era trickles away

Why is petrol still so cheap? In a week when pump prices were raised by up to 14p a gallon, one of the largest increases in living memory, the *question might seem unnecessarily* provocative. Yet it deserves to be asked, even though – indeed, particularly because – world oil prices are now falling.

This has nothing to do with the profitability or otherwise of the oil companies, nor is it about the wholly admirable competitive pressures *which* have sent pump prices fluctuating up and down so furiously over the past 18 months. It is a question of energy policy.

The case for raising the tax on petrol by a significant factor is almost as strong as any such move would be unpopular. But if Britain is to make any pretence that it is interested in promoting energy conservation, it is eventually going to have to tackle the country's pro-car lobby head on. Those of us who are members of the lobby should, nonetheless, feel free to fight any such move with vigour.

The figures which so graphically describe how the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries has failed to cure the British people's love affair with the motor car, are worth recounting. Since 1973, despite a near five-fold increase in the real price of crude oil, the price of petrol in real terms has gone up by no more than 25 per cent, less before you take this week's increases into account.

Largely because of this, petrol consumption has continued to grow nearly every year while oil demand as a whole has dropped sharply. The only exceptions to this trend were *in the two years* after the first trauma of the 1973 oil price shock, and in 1981, when the Chancellor took his courage in his hands and whacked up petrol duty by 20p a gallon. Both these deviations proved short-lived.

Since 1966, petrol's share of oil demand has gone up from 18 to 32 per cent, and while motorists have become sensitive to differences in pump prices offered by competing petrol stations, they have not stopped buying the product itself – or started worrying too much how efficiently they use it.

It would clearly be absurd to deny that higher prices have had significant effects on car sales, and on the *size* and efficiency of engines, as Sir Michael Edwardes, for one, would happily admit. Yet there is still a long, long way to go.

A recent report by the Policy Studies Institute, for example, found that since 1973, despite the best endeav*ours of* Opec, the number of cars in Britain has actually increased, by 9 per cent, while the average mileage of each car, both new and old, has also gone up, by 6 per cent. All the gains in engine efficiency have, therefore, been more than offset by increased consumption and car ownership.

In another intriguing statistical series, the institute also found that in 1981 it took the average wage earner 24 minutes to earn the cost of a gallon of petrol, exactly the same amount of time it took in 1970. All the recent anecdotal evidence from the United States, and in Britain, about renewed customer *interest in* larger cars supports the view that the conservation signals in the price of a gallon of petrol are still too feeble.

By raising petrol duty sharply, restoring (some of) the sensible price advantage of diesel over petrol, and broaching the concessions on company cars, the Government has done perhaps rather more than one might have expected, given its natural anti-public transport inclinations. But with oil prices falling, the need for further duty increases on petrol to provide a proper incentive to conservation and efficiency *is greater than ever* before.

Obstacles to this course there will be aplenty, and it is too much to hope for any action before the election. But then, as Edmund Burke, that one time favourite Tory philosopher, said: "To tax and to please, no more than to love and be wise, is not given to men". Motorists should enjoy their cheap petrol while it lasts.

Jonathan Davis

Clive Cookson reports on how Xerox's profits fightback has an Eastern flavour

Copier king challenges Japanese

Rank Xerox is launching the most extensive range of photocopiers the industry has known in a bold attempt to reverse a 10-year decline in profit margins and market share.

The Xerox 10 Series, unveiled last month in a smoke-sound-and-light extravaganza at the Lyric Theatre in London, is the basis of a broad counter offensive against Japanese newcomers who have pushed the company's share of the worldwide copier market below 50 per cent.

Mr Hamish Orr-Ewing, the former Ford and British Leyland executive who is chairman of Rank Xerox, likes to compare the importance of the 10 Series to the impact on Ford of replacing the Fiesta, Escort, Cortina and Granada all at once.

The two machines at the low end of the range, the 1020 (price £1,500) and 1035 (£3,000) show Xerox's particular determination to regain some of the market for cheap low-volume copiers, where the Japanese invasion started. Rank Xerox now holds little more than one-eighth of that sector in the United Kingdom.



Rank Xerox pretax profits peaked at £316m in 1977

Fortunately, Rank Xerox is armed with its own Japanese technology, through a 50 per cent stake *in Fuji Xerox (Fuji* Photo Film owns the other half). Mr Orr-Ewing calls Fuji Xerox "perhaps the supreme example of a successful Japanese-Western joint venture" and he points out that Fuji Xerox alone still outsells Canon, the largest wholly Japanese owned copier manufacturer.

The 1020 and 1035 were both designed by Fuji Xerox. But the British factory at Mitcheldean, Gloucestershire, will manufacture them for sale in what the company calls the "Rank Xerox world", that is everywhere except the Americas (Xerox territory) and Japan.

The mid-level 1045 copier (price about £5,000) was developed in Britain at the Engineering Group Headquarters at Welwyn Garden City. The Dutch plant at Venray will make it for sale worldwide, including America.

At the top of the new range, the 1075 (up to £27,500) was developed mainly in the United States and will initially be imported from there to Europe, though Venray will also make it in due course.

Although the Rank Organization has owned 49 per cent of Rank Xerox since its formation in 1956, Mr Orr-Ewing stressed that it is run just as if it were a wholly owned subsidiary of Xerox.

Rank representatives sit on the main Rank Xerox board, but they play no part in the management. Mr Orr-Ewing declines to comment on the current uncertainties about the future of the Rank Organisation.

The history of the copier industry is a classic example of what happens when a monopoly loses its protection. While there is some justice in the critics' claim that Xerox failed to prepare properly for the Japanese onslaught, no company could have been expected to keep an exclusive grip on such a lucrative and fast-growing business *after the patent thicket* was removed.

Rank Xerox had enjoyed fat profit margins until competition appeared in the early 1970s after the basic patents protecting "xerography" had expired. Turnover has continued to rise steadily over the past 10 years, despite the loss of half the market to new entrants, because total photocopier sales have grown so fast. And, of course, the industry's rapid expansion was itself due partly to the Japanese competition forcing down prices.

Shares of the photocopier market are hard to estimate because companies are not prepared to give away sales figures to their competitors. Xerox and Rank Xerox probably take 40 to 50 per cent of the industry's total revenues – including service and supplies as well as sales and rental of the actual machines. Their large installed base of high-volume copiers means more than half the world's plain paper copies are still "Xeroxes".

The market looks very different when you count the number of new machines sold. In those terms, Xerox's share may have fallen below 10 per cent – behind not only Canon, but three or four other Japanese suppliers.

Canon, leader of the Japanese pack, announced its NP copying *system in 1968 as* "the world's first plain paper alternative to xerography". But it did not launch a major export drive until the mid-1970s. Although Canon claims that its technology owes nothing to Xerox, it waited until the main Xerox patents expired before entering the market.

Canon's breakthrough to mass sales was not achieved until its first cheap low-volume machine, the NP200, was launched in 1978. Now Canon also builds copiers outside Japan. The company has established itself in California and West Germany. About 30 per cent of the machines it sells in Britain are imported from the German plant in Giessen.

Rank Xerox's pretax profits peaked at £316m in 1977. And the fall became steeper last year with the recession; the company managed only £179m in 1982. (*The complexity* of the cost and profit-sharing arrangements between Xerox, Rank and Fuji leave room for confusion; these figures are given before deducting the Xerox Corporation's charges for research and development expenditure; they include the Rank Xerox share of Fuji Xerox profits).

Mr Orr-Ewing warns that because of London costs, the 10 Series will not bring Rank Xerox any financial benefit this year. "It will be in 1984 that the chickens come home to roost in the financial sense," he says.

The Xerox companies are spending enough on copier research and development – about $400m (£266.6m) a year or 70 per cent of their total research and development budget – to remain the industry's technological leaders. (That is about five times as much as Canon's expenditure on copier R & D.) But even the best products cannot save Xerox without a simultaneous transformation of the manufacturing and marketing operations to meet the Japanese challenge.

Rank Xerox has been increasing manufacturing productivity rapidly over the past three years. Employment in the Mitcheldean factory is already down to 2,800 from about 4,800 in 1980, and a further cut announced last month will reduce the workforce there to 2,300 by the end of this summer.

The redundancies have been *made* worse by a shift in demand away from large and expensive copiers whose con*struction is relatively* labour intensive.

There is an explosion at the bottom end of the market. Britain's population of photo copiers is expected to grow from 200,000 in 1980 to 450,000 by 1983. This makes it impossible (or at least impossibly expensive) for Rank-Xerox to rely on its traditional practice of selling direct to corporate customers. The company is reaching new customers, like small businesses, self-employed professionals, schools and clubs, through a combination of retail stores, agents, telephone and direct mail marketing.

Analysts of the photocopier industry are impressed by Xerox's various moves to fight back against the Japanese. "The sleeping giant has certainly woken up," according to Miss Monica Camahort, who *manages* Dataquest's California-based copying and duplicating industry service.

But no one will predict confidently that Xerox will halt, let alone reverse, the slide in its share of worldwide copying revenues. There is too much concern about the growing *threat from* American competitors, notably Kodak, at the most lucrative top end of the market where Xerox is overwhelmingly dominant, and from the Japanese moving into the mid-price sector.

An explosion at the bottom end of market

In fact Xerox could afford a gradual decline in its share if the total market grows as fast as forecast. Dataquest expects worldwide revenues to increase from $22,800m (£15,200m) in 1982 to $49,600m in 1987 (about a third of that is within Europe).

Xerox has also invested heavily, and so far unprofitably, in electronic office automation. But over 80 *per cent of its* business still consists of "putting marks on paper", as Mr Orr-Ewing puts it. Paper will give way gradually to electronic media for long-term information storage, but the present generation will continue to find it more convenient than electronic screens for temporary and mobile display.

Mr Orr-Ewing predicts: "The piece of paper with marks on it is going to be here for my lifetime and, I suspect, for yours, too."

The Japanese Competitors

COMPANY	SHARE OF UK MARKET
	Per cent
Canon	15
Sharp	12
Minolta	10
Ubix	10
Mita	9
Nashua	6
Kalle	5
Ricoh	4
Toshiba	3
Panasonic	2

Note: These figures are an approximate indication of each company's percentage of total copier sales during 1982/83, based on unpublished sources.

APPOINTMENTS

Lloyds Bank UK director

Sir Peter Ramsbotham has become a director of the clearing bank board of Lloyds Bank, Lloyds Bank UK Management. He will succeed Lord Beeching, who retires at the annual general meeting of Lloyds Bank UK Management as chairman of the southern regional board of the bank. Sir Peter has retired from his directorship of Lloyds Bank International.

Mr Arthur Holmes has joined the board of Lowndes Lambert Group and Mr Barry Hulbert has been appointed a director of Lowndes Lambert UK.

Mr K G Goodman has been appointed managing director and Mr E R C Farmer chairman of Glaxo Export, the newly-formed export company within the Glaxo Group. Mr Goodman was formerly commercial director of the Glaxo subsidiary Glaxochem. Mr Farmer is a member of the board of Glaxo Holdings, the parent company of the Glaxo Group.

Mr Richard Allardyce has become chief executive of Wigham Poland Oil & Gas Company.

Mr David W L Soulsby has joined the board of Manufacturers Hanover Industrial Finance as marketing director.

Mr Dennis O'Connor is named as the new director of product marketing for Apple Computer (UK).

Mr Robin Howard has taken the new post of senior executive assistant to Mr James Gulliver, chairman of Argyll Foods.

Mr Christopher Jones is appointed a non-executive director of the parent company Bassett Foods. Mr Christopher Hughes has become marketing director of the sugar confectionery subsidiary, Geo. Bassett & Co.

Mr Lewis Wilkinson, formerly the Co-operative Bank's assistant general manager (central services), has been appointed general manager (administration).

Mr Geoffrey C. Honeyball has been named as company secretary of Drake & Scull Holdings. His appointment follows the resignation of Mr Ronald J. Simpson as finance director and company secretary, who has left the group to take up a position elsewhere.

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

Authorized Unit Trusts

1982/83 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Insurance Bonds and Funds

1982/83 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

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INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK ● edited by Sally White

Taylor Woodrow in line for rerating

Taylor Woodrow
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit £28.5m (24.9m)
Stated earnings 54.7p (49.7p)
Turnover £604m (£575m)
Net final dividend 14p, mkg 27.857 (23.296p)
Share price 565p. Yield 7 per cent

The rush to discover neglected stocks seems to have missed some of the building contractors. This can be the only reason why Taylor Woodrow is on a prospective multiple that is at least a 25 per cent discount to the market. With the City hoping for £34.5m in 1983, the rating looks way out of line.

Taylor Woodrow's performance shows the continuation of a long period of stagnation. However, the rise in profits from £24.9m to £28.5m show the benefit of the £4m loss elimination from the provision on a Trinidad contract.

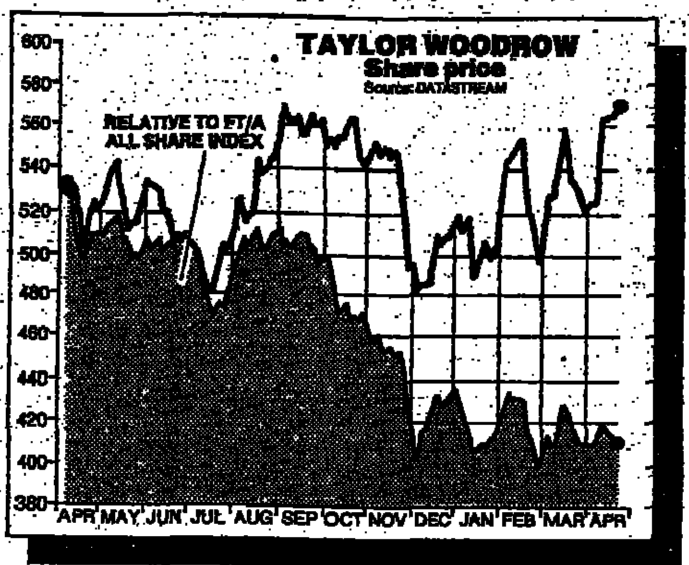
Divisional breakdown shows contracting up nearly £3m at £15m, property barely changed at £4.9m, and housing down £1m at £4.9m.

Geographical breakdown gives large rises in Australasia and the Far East, a turnround into £1m profit in the Americas, a slight drop to £7m profit in the Middle East, and £1.3m i Africa, and a worsening of the European loss at £371,000. The United Kingdom dropped very slightly at £16.7m.

The shares have been depressed by the exposure to Nigeria, where the company has been working through its order load. But it has been there for long enough to ensure that this does not reduce its leverage for securing payment.

It was the property backing that secured a premium rating over the market in the past. The asset value is at least £9 a share, and this seems to have been overlooked.

It should be only a matter of time before the price moves to reflect fundamental strengths.



Rio Tinto-Zinc

Rio Tinto-Zinc Corporation
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit £341m (£348m).
Stated earnings 39.62p (40.42p).
Turnover £3,680m (£3,020m).
Net final dividend 10.5p making 16p (same).
Share price 584p. Yield 3.9 per cent.

RTZ took the market by surprise in a big way – an unusual event in the City given the usual efficiency of corporate communication – with its jump in pretax profits to £241m in the second half, against £100m in the first half.

The reasons given are an increase of £20m from Hamersley (not so much from the company's performance but as a result of RTZ's different accounting treatment), an £11m increase from rossing and a first time contribution from Tunnel and Ward. In addition the fall in RTZ Orax's profits was very much less than the market had feared.

This year the dividend could benefit from higher prices for metals, and the rise in the share price to 584p, with 17½p a distinct possibility.

Hestair

Hestair
Year to 31.1.83.
Pretax profit £2.16m (£1.64m).
Stated earnings 10.1p (8.1p).
Turnover £69.38m (£64.22m).
Net final dividend 2p making 3.25p (2p).
Share price 60p. Yield 7.7p.

Pretax profits of Hestair, the commercial vehicles to industrial and office services group, rose by 31 per cent to £2.16m in the year to January and are going to rise further this year, according to Mr David Hargreaves, the chairman.

Though the group produced £4m profits in 1977 and 1978, it is still a remarkably good performance in view of its exposure to the specialist vehicle market.

The group did well in this field to hold the decline in trading profits last year to £714,000, for it is now one of the few profitable commercial chassis businesses in Britain.

Although until recently it was the smallest of the commercial vehicle businesses, Hestair Dennis is now emerging as the biggest with an order book representing seven months' work at £27m – a good £5m more than it has been at any stage in the past.

Mr Hargreaves is, however, not satisfied. The return on sales in this part of the group is far too low and despite the £200,000 of direct costs attributable to the recent type aproval regulations that will fall into this year, he aims to take it higher.

At 60p, the shares have to be reasonable value on a yield of 7.7 per cent, after the hoist in the final dividend, and selling at just 10.5 times fully taxed earnings.

Octopus

With around £3,000m sitting in the City ready to stag new issues, a few lessons have been learned. So Octopus Publishing Group is going public by way of a tender offer with a minimum price of 275p which would value the company at £30.1m

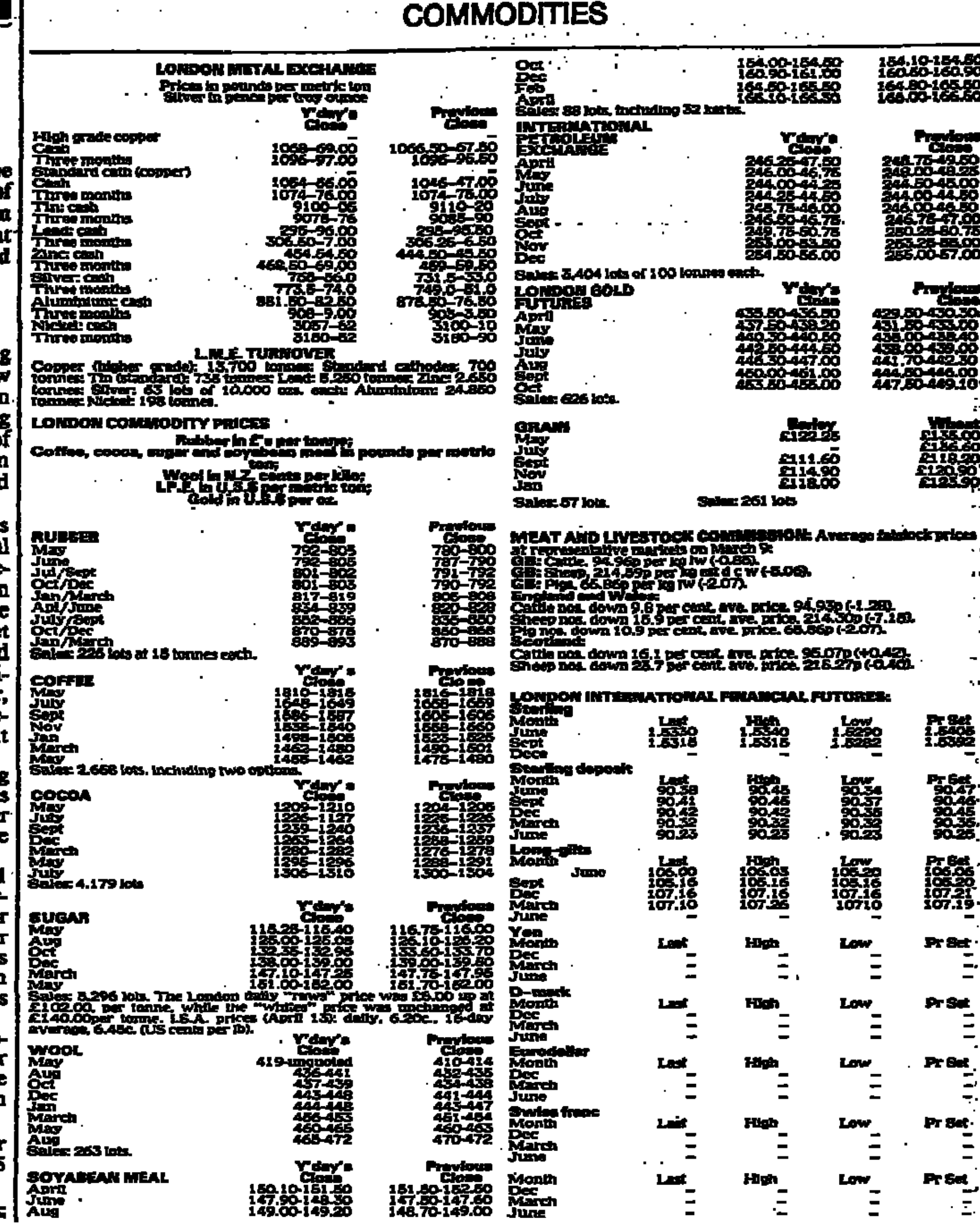
The minimum price puts Octopus, built up by Mr Paul Hamlyn, on a fully-taxed price-earning ratio of 18.6. But even the minimum tender price shows a hefty premium to net assets of about 98p a share. And as Octopus – with its relationship with Marks & Spencer, Sainsbury and other big retailers – is a unique publisher it is difficult to value.

Guesses about the striking price – the application list closes next Thursday – put it at over 300p: say 10 per cent above the minimum.

Yesterday's offer of 3.1 million shares has been underwritten and represents 20 per cent of the capital but a further 30 per cent of the capital is issued in deferred shares which will not be listed. This follows the splitting of the capital.

Octopus's £773,000 shareholding in TV-am, where Mr Hamlyn is a non-executive director, has been written down to a nominal £1.

Mr Hamlyn will own 63 per cent of the issued shares, and 85 per cent of the deferred shares.



COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Prices in pounds per metric ton
Silver in pence per troy ounce

	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
High grade copper	–	–
Cash	1068–69.00	1066.50–67.50
Three months	1096–97.00	1096–95.50
Standard cath (copper)	–	–
Cash	1064–66.00	1046–47.00
Three months	1074–76.00	1074–76.00
Tin: cash	9100–05	9110–20
Three months	9075–76	9085–90
Lead: cash	295–96.00	298–96.50
Three months	306.50–7.00	306.25–6.50
Zinc: cash	454.54.50	444.50–45.50
Three months	469.50–69.00	489–59.50
Silver: cash	758–56.0	731.5–33.0
Three months	773.5–74.0	749.0–51.0
Aluminium: cash	881.50–82.50	878.50–76.50
Three months	908–9.00	905–3.50
Nickel: cash	3057–62	3100–10
Three months	3150–62	3180–90

L.M.E. TURNOVER
Copper (higher grade): 13,700 tonnes: Standard cathodes: 700 tonnes: Tin (standard): 735 tonnes: Lead: 5,250 tonnes: Zinc: 2,650 tonnes: Silver: 63 lots of 10,000 ozs. each: Aluminium: 24,850 tonnes: Nickel: 198 tonnes.

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES
Rubber in £'s per tonne;
Coffee, cocoa, sugar and soyabean meal in pounds per metric ton;
Wool in N.Z. cents per kilo;
I.P.E. in U.S.$ per metric ton;
Gold in U.S.$ per oz.

RUBBER	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
May	792–805	780–800
June	792–805	787–790
Jul/Sept	801–802	791–792
Oct/Dec	801–803	790–792
Jan/March	817–819	805–808
Apl/June	834–839	820–828
July/Sept	852–855	835–850
Oct/Dec	870–878	850–868
Jan/March	889–893	870–888

Sales: 225 lots at 15 tonnes each.

COFFEE	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
May	1810–1815	1816–1818
July	1648–1649	1658–1659
Sept	1586–1587	1605–1606
Nov	1535–1540	1558–1560
Jan	1498–1505	1523–1525
March	1462–1480	1490–1501
May	1455–1462	1475–1480

Sales: 2,668 lots, including two options.

COCOA	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
May	1209–1210	1204–1205
July	1226–1127	1225–1226
Sept	1239–1240	1236–1237
Dec	1263–1264	1258–1259
March	1280–1282	1276–1278
May	1295–1296	1288–1291
July	1306–1310	1300–1304

Sales: 4,179 lots

SUGAR	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
May	115.25-115.40	116.75-116.00
Aug	125.00-125.05	126.10-126.20
Oct	132.35-132.95	133.60-133.70
Dec	138.00-139.00	139.00-139.80
March	147.10-147.25	147.75-147.95
May	151.00-152.00	151.70-152.00

Sales: 5,296 lots. The London daily "raws" price was £5.00 up at £102.00, per tonne, while the "whites" price was unchanged at £140.00 per tonne. I.S.A. prices (April 13): daily, 6.20c., 15-day average, 6.45c. (US cents per lb).

WOOL	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
May	419-unquoted	410-414
Aug	436-441	432-435
Oct	437-439	434-438
Dec	443-448	441-444
Jan	444-448	443-447
March	456-453	451-454
May	460-465	460-463
Aug	465-472	470-472

Sales: 263 lots.

SOYABEAN MEAL	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
April	150.10-151.50	151.80-152.50
June	147.90-148.30	147.50-147.60
Aug	149.00-149.20	148.70-149.00
Oct	154.00-154.50	154.10-154.50
Dec	160.90-161.00	160.50-160.90
Feb	164.50-165.50	164.80-165.50
April	165.10-165.50	166.00-166.50

Sales: 88 lots, including 32 kerbs.

INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXCHANGE	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
April	246.25-47.50	248.75-49.50
May	246.00-46.75	249.00-49.25
June	244.00-44.25	244.50-45.00
July	244.25-44.50	244.00-44.50
Aug	245.75-46.00	246.00-46.50
Sept	246.50-46.75	246.75-47.00
Oct	249.75-50.75	250.25-50.75
Nov	253.00-53.50	253.25-55.00
Dec	254.50-56.00	255.00-57.00

Sales: 3,404 lots of 100 tonnes each.

LONDON GOLD FUTURES	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
April	435.50-436.50	429.50-430.30
May	437.50-439.20	431.50-433.00
June	440.30-440.50	438.00-438.40
July	442.50-444.50	438.00-439.00
Aug	446.30-447.00	441.70-442.30
Sept	450.00-451.00	444.50-446.00
Oct	453.50-455.00	447.50-449.10

Sales: 626 lots.

GRAIN	Barley	Wheat
May	£122.25	£135.00
July	–	£136.60
Sept	£111.60	£118.20
Nov	£114.90	£120.90
Jan	£118.00	£123.90

Sales: 57 lots. Sales: 261 lots

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 9:
GB: Cattle, 94.96p per kg lw (-0.85).
GB: Sheep, 214.59p per kg est d c w (-5.06).
GB: Pigs, 65.86p per kg lw (-2.07).
England and Wales:
Cattle nos. down 9.8 per cent, ave. price, 94.93p (-1.28).
Sheep nos. down 15.9 per cent, ave. price, 214.30p (-7.18).
Pig nos. down 10.9 per cent, ave. price, 65.86p (-2.07).
Scotland:
Cattle nos. down 16.1 per cent, ave. price, 95.07p (+0.42).
Sheep nos. down 23.7 per cent, ave. price, 216.27p (-0.40).

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES:

Sterling Month	Last	High	Low	Pr Set
June	1.5330	1.5340	1.5290	1.5405
Sept	1.5318	1.5315	1.5282	1.5392
Dec	–	–	–	–

Sterling deposit Month	Last	High	Low	Pr Set
June	90.38	90.45	90.34	90.47
Sept	90.41	90.45	90.37	90.46
Dec	90.42	90.42	90.35	90.45
March	90.32	90.32	90.32	90.35
June	90.23	90.23	90.23	90.25

Long-gilts Month	Last	High	Low	Pr Set
June	106.00	106.03	105.20	106.06
Sept	105.16	105.16	105.16	105.20
Dec	107.16	107.16	107.16	107.21
March	107.10	107.25	10710	107.19
June	–	–	–	–

Yen Month	Last	High	Low	Pr Set
Dec	–	–	–	–
March	–	–	–	–
June	–	–	–	–

D-mark Month	Last	High	Low	Pr Set
Dec	–	–	–	–
March	–	–	–	–
June	–	–	–	–

Eurodollar Month	Last	High	Low	Pr Set
Dec	–	–	–	–
March	–	–	–	–
June	–	–	–	–

Swiss franc Month	Last	High	Low	Pr Set
Dec	–	–	–	–
March	–	–	–	–
June	–	–	–	–

Month	Last	High	Low	Pr Set
Dec	–	–	–	–
March	–	–	–	–
June	–	–	–	–

Fifteenth record year for Portals

By Our Financial Staff

Portals Holdings
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit £14.8m (£13.3m)
Stated earnings 46p (67.1p)
Turnover £157m (£143m)
Net final dividend 9.75p, making 15.5p (14p)
Share price 575p, up 30p. Yield 2.7%
Dividend payable 1.7.83

Portals has turned in record profits for the fifteenth consecutive year, with a pretax increase from £13.3m to £14.8m. The dividend is up by nearly 11 per cent.

However, the return to a normal tax charge after the exceptionally low levels of earlier years means that earnings per share were well down last year from 67.1p to 46p.

Last year's growth in pretax profits was due partly to the £1.2m rise in net interest receivable to £1.5m.

This was because of higher advance payments on contracts in the water treatment division.

On the trading side, the papermaking division, which makes the banknote paper, edged ahead to £7.7m.

The other main division, water treatment and engineering, incurred losses in the latter activity, but water treatment seems to have held up well despite lower demand from important Middle East markets and profits were up from £5.4m to £5.7m.

Portals is to spend £10m over three years in updating its Hampshire mill. Its United States mill is now on stream, although this will not lift profits until 1984 to 1985 and will probably reduce them this year.

Some improvement is still likely this year to perhaps £15.5m, although on the basis of the present tax charge this would still leave stated earnings about 6p below the stated earnings of 54p in 1980.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Green's Economiser Group
Year to 31.12 82
Pretax loss, £759,000 (£2.81m profit)
Stated earnings (loss) 8.8p (profit, 22.51p)
Turnover, £36.31m (£32.13m)
Net dividend, 2.875p (5.75p)

United Ceramic Distributors
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit, £41,000 (£20,000)
Stated earnings, 2.9p (2.0p)
Turnover, £5.06m (£4.58m)
Net dividend, 3.0p (3.5p)

Beauford Group
Year to 31.12 82
Pretax profit, £607,000 (£356,000)
Stated earnings, 11.6p (6.8p)
Turnover, £7.57m (£5.45m)
Net dividend, 3.5p (2.1p)

Martonair International
Half-year to 31.1.83.
Pretax profit, £1.82m (£1.81m).
Turnover, £20.01m (£18.54m).
Net interim dividend, 1.95p (1.95p).

T. C. Harrison
Year to 31.12.82.
Pretax profit £3.0m (£2.88m).
Stated earnings, 13.06p (13.03p).
Turnover, £81.32m (£72.51m).
Net dividend, 3.3p (3.1p).

Wm. Low
Half-year (28 weeks) to 19.3.83.
Pretax profit, £1.89m (£1.16m).
Turnover, £58.85m (£53.16m).
Net interim dividend, 2.5p (2.1p).

M. P. Kent
Half-year to 31.12.82.
Pretax profit, £740,000 (£2.86m).
Stated earnings, 1.73p (6.2p).
Turnover, £5.33m (£12.4m).
Net interim dividend, 0.36p (0.36p).

George Spencer
Year to 31.12.82.
Pretax loss, £564,000 (£177,000 loss).
Stated earnings (loss) 8.8p (loss, 3.3p).
Turnover, £11.91m (£12.9m).
Net dividend, nil (nil).

Vickers hopeful of £120m US Navy order

By Andrew Cornelius

Vickers marine engineering division is fighting to win £120m of orders from the US Navy for ship stabilizing equipment which has proved successful during last year's Falklands campaign.

A delegation from Brown Brothers, a Vickers subsidiary which makes the system in Edinburgh, is expected to meet US Navy officials next month to discuss installing the stabilizers in a new class of destroyer.

Brown Brothers has already secured £20m of orders to supply the US Navy with 34 stabilizer sets for the FFG-7 guided missile carrying frigates. But after the stabilizers' success under severe conditions in the Falklands, and its pilot trials with the US Navy, Brown Brothers is hoping to acquire contracts for up to 200 more systems.

The US Navy is likely to tender for 20 more stabilizer sets for the FFG-7 later this year.

However, the real prize is a contract to fit the stabilizers, which cost £500,000 a set, on a new class of 7,000-ton destroyers planned by the US Navy, which is expanding its fleet by 200 vessels over the next five years.

The immediate benefit of the order will be shown in the Vickers balance sheet this year.

The marine engineering division is likely to increase pretax profits from last year's £3.5m to £5.5m this year on a turnover of about £60m.

Vickers' sales efforts have been helped considerably by a Ministry of Defence letter commending the stabilizers' perfomance. The ministry said that the stabilizers enhanced the ships' fighting potential in the Falklands' campaign by steadying helicopter platforms.

Vickers' plans for the marine engineering division also include an expansion of its offshore oil-related activities. The division has been identified as a core activity within the group and has priority for investment. The first signs of this will be seen when the company launches a bid for an as yet unnamed offshore company in the United States within the next two months.

Profits up by £1m at Austin Reed

By Jonathan Clare

Austin Reed Group
Year to 31.1.83
Pretax profit £3.3m (£2.0m)
Stated earnings 9.8p (6.8p)
Turnover £46.9m (£44.8m)
Net dividend 4.5p (3.36p)
Share price 158p, up 15p. Yield 4.1%

Austin Reed, now back to the profit levels of five years ago, with a £1.3m pretax rise to £3.3m in the year to January 31, is much more optimistic about the future with better sales and higher spending.

Sales in British shops were up by about 7.5 per cent with the first two months of this year seeing a similar increase. With margins little changed, profits are likely to be up roughly in line.

The closure of the Swedish operation helped profits after the previous year's loss of £185,000, but with the closure of the Dublin store, the rationalization reduced overseas turnover by £2m to £4m.

Austin Reed is aware of the attempts by other chains like Hepworth and Burton Group to move their ranges up market. But it believes they will concentrate on the casual market rather than encroach on traditional Austin Reed territory.

More womenswear Options branches are being opened within menswear branches but it is difficult to calculate their profit contribution because the menswear shops bear all the overheads. Profits from the Netherlands' three shops improved greatly, more so than in Britain.

This year Austin Reed will benefit from lower interest rates which reduce the cost of its customer credit scheme and also put more buying power in the hands of its customers.

Hongkong deficit warning

Less than two months after delivering The Hongkong Governments budget for the financial year that began on April 1, the Financial Secretary said yesterday that the deficit may widen by another HK$1,000m (£100m) to HK$4,200m.

In a speech before the legislative council, Mr John Bremridge made the revised estimate, adding that as a result the government may need to further increase takes to help narrow the budget shortfalls.

The governments budget for the year that ended March 31 produced a HK$3,800m deficit. The Financial Secretary slightly revised the revenue and expenditure figures in his speech yesterday, saying that the gap was actually HK$300m less

He said these funds, however, would be transferred to the capital works reserve, leaving the year-end deficit unchanged.

He had predicted a HK$2,800m surplus for the just-completed financial year, but a sharp economic reversal turned that into the first deficit in eight years.

Mr Bremridge said, however, that the reserves would fall to HK$4,300m for 1984-85 if the government does not institute further tax increases.

In his February budget speech he enacted HK3,00m in indirect tax increases

Mr Bremridge called the expected level of free reserves HK$4,300m dangerously low.

He added several comments indicating that the government is giving even more serious consideration to commercial borrowing to cover the revenue shortfalls.

Recovery at Albert Martin

By Our Financial Staff

Albert Martin Holdings
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit £667,000 (£282,000 loss).
Stated earnings 6.32p (loss, 6.73p).
Turnover £28.87m (28.56m).
Net dividend 2.0p (0.1p).

Albert Martin, the Nottingham-based textile company, is unlikely to turn in a spectacular profit this year, but 1982's firm recovery after two years of losses is likely to continue. Pretax profits were £667,000 against a £282,000 loss.

The return of UK manufacturing to profit, the elimination of the lossmaking distribution and wholesaling business and increased profits from the Far East turned the company round last year. Lower interest rates also helped together with borrowings down from £4.3m to £3.7m.

The dividend is the first full payment since 1979.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	10½%
Barclays	10 %
BCCI	10½%
Consolidated Crds	10½%
C. Hoare & Co	*10½%
Lloyds Bank	10½%
Midland Bank	10 %
Nat Westminster	10½%
TSB	10½%
Williams & Glyn's	10½%

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 7½%; £10,000 up to £50,000, 8¼%; £50,000 and over, 9%.

WALL STREET

Stand on insider trading eased

NYT News Service – Washington Mr John S. R. Shad, the chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission has urged approval of a bill that would allow assessment of triple damages for insider trading violations.

But Mr Shad told the House Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Finance that he could accept important changes that might weaken the proposal, which the Commission voted to support last year.

The changes involve inserting a definition of insider trading, which could narrow the scope of prosecutions, and stiffening the legal standard for proving the charge of insider trading. The possible shift in position surprised some subcommittee members.

Insider trading involves the improper use of corporate information, such as data on earnings or dividends, or market information, such as knowing of a takeover attempt or tender offer, to buy or sell shares to make a profit or avoid a loss.

Under present law and regulations, the commission can bring a civil enforcement action against an individual, but can force him only to disgorge the profits made on the use of the insider information. This proposal would allow the commission to seek penalties up to three times the profit from the insider trading.

Despite these differences, comission officialls – members of the subcommittee, Mr Timothy Wirth, and industry representatives agreed that Raising the penalties for insider trading was necessary.

Insider trading continues, despite vigorous enforcement efforts, because it presented an opportunity to reap huge profits with little risk, Mr Shad said.

Shad, in explaining his willingness to consider changes, said that people in the industry had raised serious questions about the proposal since the Commission endorsed it last autumn. He agreed to work out a definition for insider trading that could be applied when the commission was seeking damages under the new triple-penalty proposal.

Industrial representatives also urged this approach. Mr Wirth however, said the move to define insider trading was being advocated by a number of people who were going to ensure that, if there were treble damages, they would write a definition that would handcuff the commission and would raise the possibility of enormous loopholes.

On the legal standard issue Mr John M. Fedders, director of the Division of Enforcement, said that he could accept a stiffer standard for proving insider trading. At present the commission must show a preponderance of evidence. The Securities Industry Association and others suggested that for the triple damages the Commission should have a clear and convincing standard.

	Apr 13	Apr 12
AMF Inc	18½	17
AMR	28¾	28¾
Allied Chem	46½	45½
Allied Stores	43¾	43¼
Allis Chalmers	13¾	14¼
Alcoa	32¾	32½
Amax Inc	24¼	24¾
Amerada Hess	24¾	25¼
Am Brands	50	48¾
Am Broadcast	64¼	63½
Am Can	33¾	33¾
Am Cyanamid	41¼	42
Am Elec Power	19¾	19¾
Am Home	50½	50½
Am Motors	6⅜	5⅞
Am Nat Res	34¼	33¾
Am Standard	32½	32
Am Telephone	64¾	64½
Armco Steel	18½	18½
Asarco	35¾	36
Ashland Oil	31¼	31
Atlntic Richfield	43¾	43¾
Avco	31¼	31½
Avon Products	31	31¾
Bankers Tst NY	46	45¾
Bank of America	22¾	22¾
Bank of NY	56½	55¾
Beatrice Foods	26½	26½
Bethlehem Steel	21½	21
Boeing	42	41¼
Boise Cascade	41½	41
Borden	54¾	55¾
Borg Warner	49⅞	45¼
Bristol Myers	73¾	73¼
BP	22⅝	22⅞
Burlington Ind	33⅞	33¾
Burlington Nthn	79¾	76¾
Burroughs	48¼	48¾
Campbell Soup	44½	44¾
Canadian Pacific	35¾	35¼
Caterpillar	40½	39¾
Celanese	55	54¼
Central Soya	14¾	14⅞
Chase Manhat	58¼	58½
Chem Bank NY	55¾	54¼
Chrysler	19¾	18¾
Citicorp	45¼	45¼
Clark Equip	28⅞	28¾
Coca Cola	55	55¼
Colgate	23	22¾
CBS	69	70¾
Columbia Gas	30¾	30¾
Combustion Eng	35⅜	35¾
Comwlth Edison	26¾	26¼
Cons Edison	22¾	22
Cons Foods	43¾	43¾
Cons Power	21¼	21¼
Continental Grp	42¾	43¾
Control Data	47½	46¾
Corning Glass	72⅝	73
CPC Intnl	35	35
Crane	30¾	29¼
Crocker Int	29	28¾
Crown Zeller	28⅜	28¾
Dart & Kraft	75	74¼
Deere	35¾	35¾
Delta Air	46¼	45½
Detroit Edison	14¼	14¼
Disney	85¼	84¼
Dow Chemical	30	29¾
Dresser Ind	17¾	17¾
Duke Power	27⅝	23¾
Du Pont	44	43
Eastern Air	8⅜	8⅝
Eastman Kodak	81½	80¾
Eaton Corp	35	34¼
El Paso Nat Gas	17¾	16¾
Esmark	63¾	63¾
Evans P. D.	12½	12½
Exxon Corp	32¾	32¾
Fed Dept Stores	60¾	60
Firestone	19¾	18¾
Fst Chicago	24¾	24¼
Fst Intrst Bncp	37¾	36¾
Fst Nat Boston	41	41
Fst Penn Corp	5	4⅞
Ford	42¾	40¾
GAF Corp	16¼	16½
GTE Corp	42½	42¾
Gen Dynamics	44¾	44¼
Gen Electric	108	107¾
Gen Foods	41¾	42
Gen Mills	53¾	54¼
Gen Motors	61½	59½
Gen Pub Util NY	7⅞	7¾
Gen Tire	34¼	33¾
Genesco	5⅞	5⅞
Georgia Pacific	25¾	25½
Getty Oil	65½	62
Gillette	50	50¾
Goodrich	37½	36¾
Goodyear	30¾	29½
Gould Inc	32½	32
Grace	42¾	42¾
Gt Atlntc & Pacific	11¼	11¼
Greyhound	23	22½
Grumman Corp	55¼	54½
Gulf Oil	32¾	34
Gulf & West	23⅞	23⅞
Heinz H. J.	42¾	43¾
Hercules	35¾	34¾
Honeywell	92¾	92
IC Inds	41½	41
Ingersoll	43¾	43
Inland Steel	30¾	29¾
IBM	108¾	107
Int Harvester	6⅞	6⅞
INCO	13¾	12¾
Int Paper	54½	53¾
Int Tel Tel	37½	37¾
Irving Bank	49¾	48½
Jewel Co	46½	45¾
Jim Walter	42¾	43¾
Johnson & John	45¾	45½
Kaiser Alumin	17¾	17½
Kerr McGee	30	30¾
Kimberly Clark	71¾	72¼
K Mart	33¾	32½
Kroger	38¾	37½
L.T.V. Corp	14¾	14¾
Litton	58¾	58¾
Lockheed	108¾	108¾
Lucky Stores	22¾	21¾
Manuf Hanover	48	46¾
Manville Cp	12	12¾
Mapco	22¾	22¾
Marine Midland	25¾	25¾
Martin Marietta	61¾	57½
McDonnell	55¾	55
Mead	31	29¾
Merck	92¾	83½
Minnesota Mng	77¾	77¾
Mobil Oil	29¾	29¾
Monsanto	91	90¾
Morgan J. P.	80¾	79¾
Motorola	108½	106½
NCR Corp	108¾	108¾
NL Industries	15¾	15¾
Nabisco	39¾	34¾
Nat Distillers	27	26¾
Nat Med Ent	34¼	34¾
Nat Steel	23½	23
Norfolk South	56¾	56¾
NW Bancorp	27¾	28¾
Norton Simon	23¾	23¾
Occidental Pet	20½	20¾
Ogden	26	26¾
Olin Corp	38¾	38¾
Owens-Illinois	31	30¾
Pacific Gas Elec	31¾	31¾
Pan Am	4⅞	4⅞
Penney J. C.	65¾	63¾
Pennzoil	37¾	38¾
Pepsico	35¾	36
Pfizer	79¾	80¾
Phelps Dodge	27⅞	28¾
Philip Morris	62½	62¾
Phillips Petrol	34½	35¾
Polaroid	31¼	31¾
PPG Ind	62½	61¾
Proctor Gamble	61	60½
Pub Ser El & Gas	22¾	22¾
Raytheon	52¾	51¾
RCA Corp.	23¾	23
Republic Steel	20⅜	20⅜
Reynolds Ind	51¼	51¾
Reynolds Metal	33⅞	34¼
Rockwell Int	33¾	33⅝
Royal Dutch	42½	43¾
Safeways	27¾	29¾
St Regis Paper	31	30⅞
Santa Fe Ind	24¼	24⅞
SCM	35	35¾
Schlumberger	42½	42¾
Scott Paper	20¼	20¾
Seagram	28¾	27¾
Sears Roebuck	38	37¾
Shell Oil	39¾	40¾
Shell Trans	30¾	31
Signal Co	31¼	30¾
Singer	27	27¼
Sony	14¾	14¾
Sth Cal Edison	36¼	36¾
Southern Pacific	50¾	48¾
Sperry Corp	35¾	35¾
Std Oil Califnia	38	38¾
Std Oil Indiana	44⅞	45½
Std Oil Ohio	45½	46
Sterling Drug	25¾	25¾
Stevens J. P.	24½	23¾
Sun Comp	34⅝	34¾
Teledyne	148¾	145½
Tenneco	38¾	38¾
Texaco	34	33¾
Texas East Corp	50¾	50¾
Texas Inst	104½	102¾
Texas Utilities	24	24
Textron	28¾	28½
TWA	38½	35¾
Travelers Corp	37¼	36
TRW Inc	65½	63¾
UAL Inc	33¾	32¾
Union Carbide	61½	60¾
Union Oil Calif	34½	34¾
Un Pacific Corp	51½	52¾
Uniroyal	12	11¾
United Brands	10¾	10¾
US Industries	14¼	14¾
US Steel	22¾	23¾
Utd Technol	70	69¾
Wachovia	38¾	38¾
Warner Comms	25¾	25¾
Warner Lambert	33	33
Wells Fargo	33¾	33¾
Westnghse Elec	44¾	43½
Weyerhauser	38¾	38¾
Whirlpool	52½	50¾
Woolworth	35¾	36¾
Xerox Corp	41	41¼
Zenith	16½	15¾
Canadian Prices		
Abitibi	22½	23¼
Alcan Alumin	37	36¾
Algoma Steel	28	28¾
Bell Telephone	25¾	25¾
Cominco	46	45½
Cons Bathurst	18¾	19½
Gulf Oil	15¾	15¾
Hawker/Sid Can	17¾	17¾
Hudson Bay Mng	17¾	17¾
Imasco	34½	34¾
Imperial Oil	32¾	33¾
Int Pipe	27¾	27
Mass.-Fergsn	3⅜	3¾
Royal Trust	24¾	24
Seagram	35	34¾
Steel Co	24¾	24¾
Thomson N 'A'	33	31¾
Walker Hiram	23	22½
WCT	14¾	14½

* Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

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Higher inflation after a Tory victory forecast

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

A re-elected Conservative government would preside over higher inflation, sluggish economic growth and a further increase in unemployment, according to forecasts released yesterday by DRI Europe, the consulting group, released yesterday.

The group, which assumes a Conservative victory in an autumn election, predicts growth of 1.9 per cent this year, rising to 2.4 per cent next year, but subsiding to 1.8 per cent in 1985.

Adult unemployment is expected by the group to rise from 12 per cent of the workforce this year to 13.4 per cent in 1985. Inflation, it says, will rise from an average of 6.2 per cent this year to a peak of just over 9 per cent next spring, with little slackening afterwards.

This is despite the pursuit of tight fiscal policies, which preclude any substantial tax cuts.

Higher import prices, sharp increases in labour costs at home and an end to the temporary effects of interest rate falls and artificially depressed public sector prices will all combine to push up inflation, DRI says.

Higher inflation will restrain growth of real incomes, slowing the rise in economic activity, DRI believes ruling out a significantly stronger recovery.

The DRI forecasts were presented to a conference on the European Economic Outlook, where Mr Jack Straw, Labour Treasury spokesman, berated Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, for inconsistency on exchange rate policy.

Mr Straw said that after lofty criticism of Labour's devaluation plans, Sir Geoffrey now admitted that the lower pound had boosted competitiveness and improved the economic outlook.

Last-quarter loss hits Morgan Crucible

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Morgan Crucible
Year to 31.12.83
Pretax profit £4.72m (£8.07m).
Stated earnings 3.5p (10.5p).
Turnover £152m (£133m).
Net final dividend 4p, making 7.5p (7.5p).
Share price 109p, up 3p.
Dividend payable 15.7.83

Morgan Crucible, the industrial components and materials company, slipped into losses in the final quarter to end the year with pretax profits down by 42 per cent to £4.72m. After nine months of the year the group was showing a profit of £5.1m.

However Morgan believes the worst is over and is maintaining its final dividend at 4p to leave the year's payout unchanged at 7.5p.

Sir James Spooner, chairman, said that although there was little sign of substantial worldwide economic recovery, the improvements being experienced in the United Kingdom and America were encouraging. the value of the pound was also helpful since two-thirds of the group's sales were overseas.

"There was a false dawn at this time last year butcurrent indications are that most economies in which Morgan operates have either stabilized or are improving," Sir James said. He added that this, together with the determination to stay competitive, was why the board decidec to hold the dividend.

Most of Morgan's divisions reported lower trading profits last year. One exception was lubrication where profits rose from £2.1m to £2.3m

Net finance charges were also up last year, increasing from £4.02m to £5.11m.

Because of the poor demand worldwide in the final quarter, Morgan carried out plans to cut domestic overheads at a cost of £750,000 and the numbber of employees have been reduced.

Trading profits last year were reduced by a total of £1.27m reflecting redundancy and reorganization costs. This compared with a charge of £961,000 against the previous year's profits.

The group's cost-cutting measures will also mean less disclosure to shareholders.

Datalogic to buy main parts of Altergo

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

Datalogic, a British computer systems company owned by the American Raytheon group, will buy the main part of Altergo, the software house that went into receivership last week.

The receivers, Mr Ipe Jacob and Mr Maurice Withall of London accountants Thornton Baker, had offers from many buyers in Britain and the United States. They had to negotiate very quickly before Altergo's 275 employees – the vital asset of the business – dispersed to other jobs.

Datalogic is buying the two largest subsidiaries, Altergo Limited and Altergo Business Systems, and has offered employment for nearly all of their 150 staff who were made redundant earlier this week. They will trade as a separate unit under the Altergo name within the Datalogic organization. The price paid was not disclosed.

The receivers said they were negotiating "with several interested parties in the United Kingdom and the United States" about the future of the remaining parts of Altergo, notably Altergo Software which has significant involvement in the American market.

"Because that business is more complex it is likely to be some days before an announcement can be made" about Altergo Software, Mr Jacob and Mr Withall said yesterday.

Russians cut cheap cruises

From John Earle, Rome

Soviet cruise ships offering cut-price holidays from Italian ports are to be limited as a result of talks in Moscow beween Italian shipowners, represented by Signor Nicola Costa, and the Soviet organization Morpasflot.

Signor Costa, chairman of Costa Armatori, which runs Italy's biggest private fleet of cruise ships, said the Russians had agreed to a maximum of 250 cruising days this year accumulated by Soviet-crewed ships chartered to Italian operators.

In 1984, the limit would be further reduced to 200 days. This compared with more than 340 days accumalated last year by Soviet ships carrying on average 600 passengers.

The Russians, Signor Costa added, had also agreed to hold a meeting by the end of March each year, between their organization and the Italian shipowners' organization, Confitarma, to approve a charter programme of Soviet ships for the subsequent year.

They also gave a general undertaking to limit to the 1982 level, the resale of berths on the Italian market which were available on Soviet ships chartered to other foreign operators, particularly West German.

BOXING: EUROPEAN CHAMPION BYPASSES BRITON

Bugner hits on a royal road to the world crown

By Alan Hubbard

Joe Bugner's prospects of competing for any sort of title in the Indian summer of his career seem to be receding. He learnt yesterday that the European champion, Lucien Rodriguez, of France, has overlooked the cheque-book proferred by the London promoter, Frank Warren, and instead will defend his title against his fellow countryman, Sylvain Watbled, on May 26.

Before Bugner can make serious noises about a world title engagement with Larry Holmes he needs to reestablish himself in the top 10 of the World Boxing Council rankings. Acquisition of the European championship would make this possible, for Rodriguez himself has just earned £100,000 as an opponent for Holmes in a tedious, one-way engagement in the champion's home town of Scranton, New Jersey.

In order to take that contest Rodriguez excused himself from a proposed meeting with the 33-year-old Bugner. Now he has done so again, rejecting an offer of £40,000 from Mr Warren.

So, just as he did in frustration with Frank Bruno, Bugner has decided to forget all about Mr Rodriguez. Instead he will try to short-circuit the rankings by beating an American, Danny Sutton, at the Alexandra Pavilion on Wednesday and then the former world title contender, Randy (Tex) Cobb, on June 8 at the same venue. Cobb is accorded seventh place in one of the several boxing ranking lists, and Bugner claims: "He will be tougher opposition than Rodriguez but I think he will be easier to read because he stands in front of you while Rodriguez is always running. I see next Wednesday's bout as a quarter-final and the one with Cobb as a semi-final for an eventual match with Holmes."

Bugner and his promoter believe that the importation of Cobb will satisfy those who have been sceptical about the standard of opposition during his "comeback."

Yesterday Bugner sparred three rounds with the 25-year-old Swedish heavyweight, Anders Ekland, who has won all his five professional contest and is being touted as a "white hope." Ekland, who weights nearly 17 stones and is 6ft 5½ in tall, is based in Copenhagen because professional boxing is banned in Sweden. He will be appearing in a supporting bout at the Alexandra Pavilion on Wednesday and should be worth comparing with Britain's young prospect, Bruno.

Snubbed again: Joe Bugner

ICE HOCKEY

Benefits accruing from TV coverage

By Robert Pryce

The British Championship schedule is fixed, at last, virtually to everybody's satisfaction. Cleveland Bombers play Durham Wasps home and away this weekend and at Streatham the following Friday. The next day at Streatham, the winners will play Dundee Rockets in the championship final. The two games at Streatham will be televised for ITV.

A complex formula has been devised to ensure that the Cleveland-Durham series remains competitive for all three games. It will be possible for a team to lose two of the three games and still qualify for the final, an in elegant contortion designed to accomodate the television network.

The British game has not always appeared so cooperative towards television's requirements. "A lot of the clubs do not yet realise the impac they can make through television," John Davis, Thames Television's head of sport, observed. "I hope that will get sorted out for next season."

The benefits in sponsorship and public interest that can accompany television coverage did not impress Ken Bailey, manager of the Altrincham rink and a member of the British Ice Hockey Association council, who baulked at plans to televise two Thursday evening games at Altrincham last month.

Everything appeared to have been arranged, including rink-side advertising, when Mr Bailey informed Granada, the television company, that he would not cancel public skating sessions or instructional periods so that lighting could be installed.

Granada withdrew, vowing never to return. Graham Nurse the local club's leading administrator resigned. He is now helping to set up a club in a new rink planned for Rochdale.

Nevertheless, ITV plan to take up their option on a second season of coverage. The ice hockey that the network has managed to show has been favourably received. "The ratings overall have been incredible," Mr Davis said, "And I have never known a sport on television which has had such a response."

Now the sport is about to benefit financially from its televisual impact. On Monday the BIHA will announce details of a contract it has just signed with a big sponsor for next season's British League. The deal should bolster the stock of the BIHA, never very high among its member clubs, and shore up the structure of the British League.

SHOOTING

Scots short of shot at new range

By Our Rifle Shooting Correspondent

Thirty of Britain's leading pistol marksmen will be at Bisley tomorrow for an inaugural team match after Dickie Jeeps, the chairman of the Sports Council, opens the National Rifle Association's new pistol range.

The new range, built at a cost of £95,000 with a 75 per cent grant from the Sports Council, will almost double Bisley's previously overworked pistol shooting facilities.

It provides an additional 30 target spaces at 25 and 50 metres and tomorrow's match between 10 teams of three will involve precision and duelling centrefire at 25 yards range.

Competitors include the reigning British champion, John Cooke, the police rapid fire champion, Graham Harvey, most of the top internationals, and teams representing Army, Police, England, Wales, and Scotland.

HOCKEY

England's burst exacts injury toll

From Joyce Whitehead, Kuala Lumpur

A second-half burst of goals gave England a 3-2 win over New Zealand and a place at the top of their group in the women's World Cup yesterday.

After a goalless first half, England took a 2-0 lead. Jane Swinerton (Staffordshire) finished off a lovely passing movement between Robinson and Gordon for the first goal and Linda Carr (Lancashire) lifted the ball towards goal and a New Zealander inadvertently helped it into the net for the second. New Zealand's Jenny McDonald reduced the arrears before Ruth Hine (Surrey) came on in place of Barbara Hambly and soon scored England's third goal.

Calamity nearly struck England in the closing minutes. Vicky Dixon was injured and replaced by Mary Allen, New Zealand scored again and then Kim Gordon (Leicestershire) appeared to be injured. England had already used their three substitutes, but the hooter sounded to save them from further punishment.

Scotland's and Wales's hopes of a place in the semi-finals faded when they drew 1-1 in a pedestrian game. Joan Dobie gave Scotland the lead midway through the second half and Sally Manly equalized for Wales.

On Wednesday evening Scotland drew 1-1 with Australia. Marsali Young scored in the ninth minute and Scotland kept the lead until the 60th minute when Sharon Buchanan equalized.

At the same time Wales kept up their improvement and drew 1-1 with India. Shirley Morgan scored

WORLD CUP: Canada 2, West Germany 1; USSR 1, Argentine 0; England 3, New Zealand 2; Scotland 1, Wales 1.



Pool 'A'	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Australia	3	2	1	0	9	4	5
Netherlands	3	2	1	0	3	1	5
United States	3	1	1	1	4	2	3
Wales	4	0	3	1	4	8	3
Scotland	4	0	3	1	2	5	3
India	3	0	1	2	4	6	1

Pool 'B'	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	3	1	2	0	5	4	4
Argentina	3	1	1	1	2	2	3
USSR	3	1	1	1	2	3	3
New Zealand	3	1	1	1	5	5	3
Canada	3	1	1	1	4	4	3
West Germany	3	1	0	2	3	3	2

INTERCONTINENTAL CUP: Spain 2, Zimbabwe 1.

Why trampolining fails to take off

Spring in the air but still a frost on the ground

OUTPOSTS

There is something ever so subtly silly about the *idea* of trampolining. Not with the actuality, oh no, certainly not. When you see these finely honed athletics taking off like roman candles, spinning like catherine wheels among the rafters, you catch your breath in admiration and astonishment. Trampolining as a sport involves almost impossibly high levels of skill, power and sheer terror, yet it cannot shake off a background taste of frivolity, its associations with pinging bedsprings and dorm romps.

At its highest level, this sport is one of dazzling pyrotechnics controlled with an iron will, and when the world champion, Carl Furrer, and his young pretender, Glenn Kelly, of Australia, locked horns at the Southern Area Championships there was a surfeit of delights to gratify both the purist and the seeker of sensation.

It was a clasic duel, with Furrer returning from an eight month break from competition, pitting his lethally sharp technique against the amiable Australian who sought to compensate for technical shortcomings by outdoing the champion in the heroics department.

Soft landings

Kelly had left Australia to compete in Britain because Britain is the world's leading trampolining nation. That is because Britain takes it seriously as a sport in its own right, even though nobody pings up and down in the Olympic Games. The trampoline is an American invention, but trampolining got a bad name there. Bouncing became a craze, you weren't any one if you didn't have a trampoline by the poolside and a pair of crutches to help you walk after you'd broken your leg on the damn thing.

A lot of people got themselves hurt by being stupid and not realising that if you are 30 feet above your target you don't have a lot of margin for error. In Britain, a trampoline became the first resort of school sports departments with a spot left over in the budget, and here it was taken seriously, and the dangers circumnavigated. At HMS Temeraire, the Navy's physical education base where the Southern Area Open was taking place, the tramps were surrounded by soft landing stuff, and though there were a few major miscalculations, no-one was actually hurt.

From the schools, the effort grew. The British Trampolining Federation's press man, Tony Hull said: "It's our system of bringing on youngsters by organizing competitions in age groups that makes us the best. Take Andrea Holmes. Her first major competition outside England was the world championships in Montana last year, and at one stage she was sixth. And though she blew it in her final round, and finished 10th, when it comes to the next world championships, in Osaka in 1984, she is going to be something to be reckoned with." Andrea Holmes is 13.

Britain is good at the sport, and there is great flooding of interest at the schools, with plenty of gym teachers able to coach trampolining at the basic levels, and a good network of clubs across the county to bring people on. There is even one professional coach, Brian Phelps, who got the taste for bouncing when in training for Olympic diving competitions.

But for all his efforts and the efforts of trampolining enthusiasts across the world, the sport, for all its dizzy-making skills, remains a strict minority activity: the poor relation of gymnastics. A day at HMS Temeraire makes it clear that something has gone completely and stupidly wrong here.

Though gymnastics and trampolining are blood brothers, there was a familial disagreement a long way back, and the road split many a mile ago. Both sports are the poorer for the parting, but the chances of their coming together again seem achingly remote. The division is no longer a matter of rancour or disagreement: it is simply a *fait accompli*.

"Trampolining is a fantastic sport," said Nick Stuart, director of technical development with the British Amateur Gymnastics Association. "We use trampolines a lot in training, and so do the Russians. It's a sport that requires courage, skill and accuracy. In some ways an amalgamation would make sense, but frampolining has become a specialized sport now."

Spectacular

Trampolining has influenced mainstream gymnastics, notably with the spectacular spinning dismounts from the high bar and the rings, but as things stand, that is as close as the two are likely to get. Gymnastics seems all set in its own errors: for a brief period the trampoline was introduced as the seventh item in the men's programme but it was removed again. Seven was too many. The extraordinarily tedious and apparently nonsensical skills of shuffling about on a pommel horse, and the sickening spectacle of little girls turning on immaculately coached pixie smiles as they skip about on the floor to music, hold the attention of those involved in the mainstream sport of gymnastics.

There are tremendous things to watch in gymnastics as well as silly ones, sure enough, but trampolining, pared of synthetic charm and bursting with quite spectacular daring and zeal, seems somehow to have blown it for the moment. Which is why the Southern Open was at HMS Temeraire, a well organized competitors competition, rather than a crowd grabbing spectacle at the Wembley Arena.

Yet there was plenty to grab crowds. Kelly, the death-defying Australian, was matching his spectacular range of shimmering green and gold competition vests with a yet more dazzling display od aerial tricks, opening his voluntary routine with a triple backward somersault and following this with the second of his 10 permitted bounces, a triple going the opposite way. "Very Australian," said Scales.

Twitching

Up in the stratosphere, between the rafters, he was earning marks for every bodily twitch, 1 mark for each quarter somersault and each half twist. Yet it was not enough. Furrer answered with precision, pinging off that red cross in the middle of the bed every time, surrounded by the rapt insiders of this sport. But even for an outsider it was a grand contest, as Furrer's razored skills won the event to conclude a tremendous day of sport. You left HMS Temeraire with a spring in your step.

Simon Barnes



Aerial artistry: Glenn Kelly, world number two, bouncing on high. Photograph by Peter Trievnor

GOLF

Britons lead in bridging the generation gap

From John Hennessy, Golf Correspondent, Port el Kantaoui

Two British players of different vintage and a familiar American figure occupied the leading positions yesterday after the first round of the Tunisian Open championship, which by tradition (so far of one year's duration) launches the new professional golf season. Ian Mosey, Michael McLean and Tom Sieckman, of the United States, all scored 68, four under par for the 7,200 yards El Kantaoui course, one stroke ahead of the holder, Antonio Garrido of Spain.

Mosey, from Manchester, aged 31, a late developer who has nudged his way to the fore, mostly in foreign climes, in the last couple of years. McLean, from Kent, by contrast turned professional at 19 only last year. He looks even younger than his years but there is a golfing head on his shoulders. He took advantage of a temporary rule to use a driver for his second to the long fifteenth (580 yards) and get home for a birdie four.

The fairways have been so damaged by storms during the winter that the players have the right to place within a club's length. There seemed little relief for McLean when his long-running tee shot finished in a bare patch the size of a squash court, but a conveniently placed blade or two of grass allowed him to tee the ball up a little and he fetched it a stupendous blow with his driver.

The making of Mosey, it seems, was the time he failed to win the South African Open three winters ago. He had two putts for the title from 15 feet, took three and, predictably, lost the play-off to Gary Player. Mosey went back the following year, on the strength of three lesser victories in the North of England, determined to prove he was no choker. He won three tournaments there as well.

Sieckman, embarking upon his third season in Europe, uses the new-fangled type putter with the shaft connected to the toe. His round might be thought to be a tribute to its effectiveness, with a string of single putts. But elsewhere he took three putts three times and on one occasion none at all when he chipped in.

The shot of the day was a screaming three wood to the ninth by Magnus Persson, a 17-year-old Swede playing his first tournament round (70) after turning professional. The hole is said to measure 630 yards and even if that is an exaggeration and even if the hard fairways gave the ball plenty of extra run it was a prodigious blow to get home, in fact, pin high to the right, in two. He is only 5ft 9in and 10 stone, a combination of Severiano Ballesteros and Bjorn Borg in the making.

Meanwhile Bernard Langer, one of the most distinguished figures in the field, was shrugging his sad way from the last tee as Tich Freeman used to do after bowling an over to Don Bradman. He had just taken 77 and stood in danger of failing to make the 36-hole cut.

What had gone wrong? "If I knew that" he said "I would stop doing it". His driver had behaved tolerably well apart from putting him out of bounds at the long ninth and costing him a seven. But his irons betrayed him time after time going out, either missing the target altogether with the long shots or giving him no chance with a single putt at the shorter ones.


Mosey: late developer nudging to the fore

Leading scores

FIRST ROUND SCORES: 68: I Mosey (GB), M McLean (GB), T Sieckman (US). 69: A Garrido (Sp). 70: M Persson (Swe), E Rodriguez (Sp). 71: A Chamley (GB), K Kinnell (Swe), D Feagherty (GB). 72: J Rivero (Sp), C Krause (WG), D Smyth (Ire), M Poxon (GB), M Hunt (GB), D Durnie (GB), M Miller (GB), R Darlenmmeriou (Fr), O Sellberg (Swe), J O'Leary (Ire), K Brown (GB), M Piner (Sp), B Waites (GB). 73: P Tervainen, M Calero, (Sp), J Anglada (Sp), C Masson (GB), K Waters (GB), P Townsend (GB), R Stephens (Aus), G Garrido (Sp), M McKenzie (GB), H Clark (GB). 74: E D'Arcy (Ire), J M Canizares (Sp), M Thomas (GB), M Nasr (Tun), G Gullen (GB), J Hoskisson (GB), R Lee (GB), A O'Connor (Ire), N Mitchell (GB), M James (GB), B Marchbanks (GB), M Mannelli (It). 75: R Boxall (GB), D Russell (GB), P Way (GB), I Woosnam (GB), S Torrance (GB), N Job (GB), J King (GB), J Davila (Sp), G Turner (GB), M Tapia (Fr). 76: G Brand snr (GB), R Rafferty (GB). 77: B Langer (WG).

ATHLETICS

Waitz is aiming for world best

By Pat Butcher

Grete Waitz flew into London yesterday to rebutt suggestions that whe was going to do the same thing around the marathon course on Sunday as she did when winning in New York last October. But she admitted that her training had gone almost perfectly since her victory in the world cross-country championships in Gateshead a month ago, and that she was hoping to run faster than she had when winning in New York.

Since Mrs Waitz ran 2hr 27min 14sec in New York, into a strong headwind, this sounded very much like the quiet Norwegian's way of saying that she wanted to get close to the world best 2.25.29, set by Allison Roe in Ne York two years ago. The New Zealander's time beat Mrs Waitz former world best of 2.25.42.

All of these world best times (there are no official records due to the difference in courses), as well as the men's best by Alberto Salazar, were set in New York, and the London organizers would dearly love to rival the American event on times as well as outstrip them in numbers, as they have done in the popular event.

Around 18,000 competitors are expected to set out from Greenwich on Sunday morning, and the measure of Mrs Waitz talent is that, barring accident or injury, she will finish inside the first 100 men.

If all goes well, this will be the Norwegian's last marathon race before the inaugural world championship race in Helsinki in August. Mr Waitz said that she would probably retire after Helsinki, and it was only the recognition of official championships for women over the marathon dstance that has kept her in the sport for the last two years.

Joyce Smith, the women's winner of the London marathon for the last two years would probably say the same thing, but then, Mrs Smith was winning the world cross-country championship when Mrs Waitz was a pig-tailed schoolgirl.

It is a shame that injuries and a disaffection with the London organizers over late payments of participation money from last year caused Mrs Smith to decide to enter the marathon arena later this season in Los Angeles, but Mrs Waitz is a most popular replacement for the British star.

With the participation money prperly organized this year, Mrs Waits can expect a hefty chunk of the $18,000 (£11,500) allocation to the leading women.

The contenders in the men's race for their $24,000 (£15,500) allocation will doubtless narrow this afternoon if Kebede Balcha is one of the four expected Ethiopians to arrive. Balcha's performances, and best time of 2.11.10 in the last four years will make him the men's favourite.

FOOTBALL: COUNTDOWN FOR CUP INJURIES

O'Leary smiles on casualty parade

By a Staff Reporter

Neither Manchester United nor their FA Cup semi-final rivals, Arsenal, can yet complete their team plans for tomorrow's match at Villa Park. Further cruel luck struck United when their Dutch International, Arnold Muhren, was ruled out with a calf muscle injury, but at least Arsenal finished training yesterday with none of their injured "definitely out".

Arsenal's most serious doubts still concern the forward, Sunderland, and the midfield player, Nicholas, but there is brighter news of O'Leary, the cool defender, whose ankle injury was not sufficiently serious to stop him training yesterday.

Jennings, the goalkeeper, also trained at London Colney and Arsenal's manager, Terry Neill, said reports that Jennings, or anyone else, had been ruled out were not justified. Even so, there is a feeling that Jennings, who has a damaged foot, will elect not to play.

Neill felt that O'Leary had the best chance of a complete recovery but added that the team would not be chosen until noon today at the earliest. Ironically, O'Leary received his injury when playing against Manchester United in the semi-final round of the League (Milk) Cup.

The injury to Muhren came in training and led to a decision to recall Grimes, who has recently been appearing in the third team. The Irish international was sent off after being accused of striking a referee at West Ham seven months ago. He failed to regain a regular first-team place; indeed, he has made only 12 senior appearances all season.

Ron Atkinson, the United manager, said: "Ashley will come into the side because he is a first-class logical replacement. Losing Arnold is a blow but you learn to live with these things. It looks as if he could be out for 10 days".

Atkinson also has the problem of deciding whether Moran is fit to play. Moran is confident that be will play but is afraid that his lack of match practice will spoil his chances. He has played in only two of United's last nine matches. Should he fail to be chosen McGrath will probably appear.

Sheffield Wednesday's hopes that Lyons will be fit enough to play in the semi-final against Brighton at Highbury seem to e fading. The former Everton captain had treatment for a groin strain but admitted that he was "struggling".

Grimes: logical substitute

Directors save Birmingham

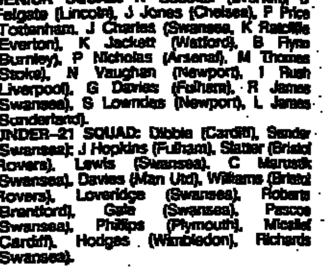
Birmingham City's Ron Saunders claimed yesterday that the club is still in business only because £150.000 has been donated by the directors and £200,000 saved on the wage bill. He said cuts were achieved by selling Colin Todd, Archie Gemmill, Frank Worthington, Alan Curbishley and Kevin Dillon.

"There have been several occasions when we have been in a precarious financial position in the last 12 months" he added. "We wouldn't be in business today but for the decisions taken to restructure the club on a solid foundation."

Saunders, who moved to Birmingham from Aston Villa 14 months ago, went on: "When I arrived the financial position was drastic to say the least and was getting worse by the week. The only thing certain was that if nothing was done, then this club would cease to exist."

● Jimmy Hill revealed yesterday that he was prepared to hand over the chairmanship of Coventry City to someone prepared to sink £250.000 into the club. Mr Hill, who as manager took Coventry into the first division in the 1960s, and was chairman for three years, said: "We are now in our worst financial moment in our history. With football in its present state no one knows whether there is a future for any of us."

Last May Coventry owed the bank a reported £565,000 and Mr Hill said: "The bank will not now increase our overdraft and we have made all the economies we can."


Curbishley: one of Birmingham's sacrifices

● Dai Davies, one of the half dozen players to win 50 Welsh caps, has been dropped from the squad for the first time for the European Championship qualifying match against Bulgaria at Wrexham on April 27.

SENIOR SQUAD: N Southall (Everton), D Felgate (Lincoln), J Jones (Chelsea), P Price (Tottenham), J Charles (Swansea), K Ratcliffe (Everton), K Jackett (Watford), B Flynn (Burnley), P Nicholas (Arsenal), M Thomas (Stoke), N Vaughan (Newport), I Rush (Liverpool), G Davies (Fulham), R James (Swansea), S Lowndes (Newport), L James (Sunderland).

UNDER-21 SQUAD: Dibble (Cardiff), Sander (Swansea); J Hopkins (Fulham), Slatter (Bristol Rovers), Lewis (Swansea), C Marustik (Swansea), Davies (Man Utd), Williams (Bristol Rovers), Loveridge (Swansea), Roberts (Brentford), Gale (Swansea), Pascoe (Swansea), Phillips (Plymouth), Micallef (Cardiff), Hodges (Wimbledon), Richards (Swansea).

● Neither Blackburn Rovers nor Burnley will have to shoulder any of the blame for the Easter Monday riot at the Lancashire derby at Ewood Park. A five-man FA disciplinary commission sat for more than five hours yesterday before absolving the two clubs of any responsibility. The commission pinned the blame firmly on the Burnley supporters

Enfield heading for the title

By Paul Newman

Enfield, who at one stage appeared to have let their chance of winning the Alliance Premier League slip away, are now clear favourites to take the title and go forward as candidates for election to the Football League.

Thanks to victory on Tuesday night away at one of their two championship rivals, Wealdstone, Enfield are now two points clear of their closest challengers, Maidstone United, who have played one match more. Wealdstone are six points behind Enfield with a game in hand.

All three clubs face difficult end-of-season programmes. Four of Enfield's six matches are away from home. Wealdstone's three remaining away games are against sides who have each lost only once at home this season, and Maidstone United entertain the teams in fourth, fifth and sixth positions in their last three home matches. The remaining fixtures are:

ENFIELD: Home: Weymouth, Barrow. Away: Bath, Worcester, Telford, Runcorn.
MAIDSTONE: Home: Runcorn, Weymouth, Scarborough. Away: Bangor, Northwich.
WEALDSTONE: Home: Telford, Scarborough, Kettering, Altrincham. Away: Weymouth, Boston, Northwich.

Less than a month ago Enfield were five points behind Maidstone, who have found scoring goals a problem in recent months despite the fact that John Bartley has hit 32 in league and league cup games this season and is the leading scorer in the Alliance. The league had been led all season by either Enfield or Maidstone until Wealdstone briefly held the top position over Easter after winning at Maidstone.

The Alliance relegation issues are much more clear-cut, with Trowbridge Town, Barrow and Stafford Rangers all looking certain to drop out. the bottom three clubs will be replaced by one from each of the three "feeder" leagues, the Northern Premier, Southen and Isthmian, provided they satisfy Alliance ground grading requirements.

Gateshead, who have gone from strength to strength since taking over at the top of the Northern Premier League in January, are now so well clear that they could secure the championship tomorrow. Gateshead and Macclesfield Town, who are currently second in the table, have applied to be graded.

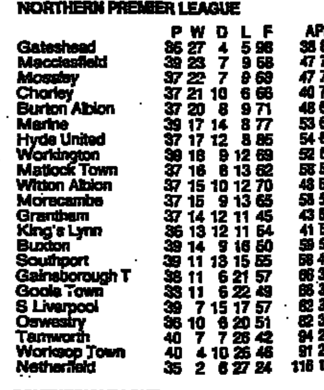
From the Southern League, both Kidderminster Harriers and A. P. Leamington have asked to be graded. Kidderminster had led the league since December until they were overtaken on Tuesday night by A. P. Leamington, who were relegated from the Alliance at the end of last season.

The only Isthmian League club intending to apply for grading are Hayes. Wycombe Wanderers, who have led the league since October and are currently the strongest Isthmian club both on and off the field, would only be interested in joining a regionalized Alliance League. Neither Leytonstone/Ilford nor Harrow Borough, who like Hayes could both overhaul Wycombe if they took full advantage of their games in hand, are currently interested in joining the Alliance.

● The Southern League yesterday elected eight new members. They are Shepshed Charterhouse (Northern Counties East League), V S Rugby, Coventry Sporting, Bridgnorth Town (West Midlands) Moor Green (Midlands Combination), Tamworth (Northern Premier), Chatham Town (Kent) and Rushden Town (United Counties).

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Enfield	36	23	6	7	83	38	75
Maidstone U	37	22	7	8	69	30	73
Wealdstone	35	20	9	6	67	31	69
Runcorn	35	19	7	9	59	41	64
Weymouth	33	17	9	7	52	33	60
Scarborough	37	17	8	12	66	47	59
Boston United	34	16	9	9	61	49	57
Telford United	33	15	10	8	56	37	55
Nuneaton B	39	14	12	13	53	55	54
Bath City	35	15	7	13	40	45	52
Northwich V	35	14	9	12	54	58	51
Barnet	37	16	3	18	52	67	51
Altrincham	36	13	8	15	52	48	47
Bangor City	36	11	11	14	59	69	44
Frickley A	38	10	11	17	57	72	41
Dagenham	32	9	11	12	51	54	38
Worcester City	35	10	8	17	49	73	38
Yeovil Town	37	11	5	21	58	84	38
Kettering Town	37	10	7	20	60	84	37
Trowbridge	36	8	6	22	43	79	30
Barrow	33	5	10	18	33	62	25
Stafford R	38	4	13	21	39	70	25



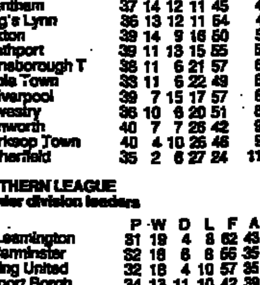


ISTHMIAN LEAGUE
Premier division leaders

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wycombe W	40	25	6	9	74	45	81
Hayes	37	22	7	8	57	33	73
L'stone/Ilford	36	21	7	8	59	31	70
Harrow Borough	33	19	6	8	70	46	63
Dulwich Hamlet	39	17	12	10	57	51	63
Slough Town	37	16	12	10	57	51	63

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Gateshead	36	27	4	5	96	38	85
Macclesfield	39	23	7	9	68	47	76
Mossley	37	22	7	8	68	47	73
Chorley	37	21	10	6	66	40	73
Burton Albion	37	20	8	9	71	48	68
Marine	39	17	14	8	77	53	65
Hyde United	37	17	12	8	85	54	63
Workington	39	18	9	12	69	52	63
Matlock Town	37	16	8	13	62	58	56
Witton Albion	37	15	10	12	70	48	54
Morecambe	37	15	9	13	65	58	54
Grantham	37	14	12	11	45	43	54
King's Lynn	36	13	12	11	54	41	51
Buxton	39	14	9	16	50	59	51
Southport	39	11	13	15	55	58	46
Gainsborough T	38	11	6	21	57	66	39
Goole Town	39	11	6	22	49	65	39
S Liverpool	39	7	15	17	57	62	36
Oswestry	36	10	6	20	51	82	36
Tamworth	40	7	7	26	42	94	28
Worksop Town	40	4	10	26	46	91	22
Netherfield	35	2	6	27	24	116	12



SOUTHERN LEAGUE
Premier division leaders

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AP Leamington	31	19	4	8	62	43	61
Kidderminster	32	18	6	8	66	35	60
Welling United	32	18	4	10	57	35	58
Gosport Borgh	34	13	11	10	42	39	50
Chelmsford C	32	13	9	10	49	36	48
Dorchester	31	12	11	8	43	40	47

EQUESTRIANISM

Tucker in lead on Dalwhinnie

By Jenny MacArthur

Michael Tucker and Mrs R H Arden's Dalwhinnie are the overnight leaders at the end of the first day of dressage at the Badminton horse trials. Tucker, the second to go, had a score of 57 marks, which put him 2.8 marks ahead of Jessica Harrington of Ireland on Amoy. Tucker, who competed Badminton last year on Dalwhinnie and was also seventh at Burghley, has a second ride tomorrow on General Bugle. His overnight lead is some compensation for his wife, Angela, who missed her ride on Willow Pattern after he failed the vet's inspection.

Captain Mark Phillips' 63.6 marks on Classic Lines, put him into sixth position. He said afterwards that he was pleased with the test, but was surprised at the discrepancy of the marks. Of the three judges, Anton Buhler, the experienced Swiss judge, marked consistently more severely than his fellow judges, Dr B Springorum from Germany and Michael Bullen of Britain.

Karen Straker, the youngest competitor, performed a pleasing test on Running Bear, to gain 67.8 marks in her first ever Badminton.

Despite the glorious spring sunshine it was a low key start to the Trial as many of the top competitors, including Lucinda Green on Regal Realm, and Beagle Bay, are drawn to do their dressage today.

Many riders did not share the view of Lt-Col Frank Weldon, the Trial director, that the cross-country course is if anything less severe than usual. Hugh Thomas, who rides Merganser II, says it is the most difficult since 1980. He thinks that very few riders will take the quickest route through fence 11, the Pig Stye.

RESULTS: 1, Dalwhinnie (M Tucker) 57; 2, Amoy (J Harrington) 59.8; 3, Soldier Blue (W White) 61.4; 4, The Apostle (E de Haan) 62.2; 5, Big Fry (E Purbrick) 62.6; 6, Classic Lines (M Phillips) 63.6.

YACHTING

Six-million dollar challenger

Naples, Italy (Reuter) – Azzurra, a 12-metre yacht built to challenge the United States for the America's Cup, will soon cross the Atlantic to New York on board an Italian freighter.

The sleek, blue, 30-ton yacht is due to arrive in New York harbour in late April and will then be transported by road to the elegant resort of Newport, Rhode Island, site for the America's Cup challenger trials starting on June 18. The winner of the trials will compete in the best-of-seven-race America's Cup series in September. Britain, Australia, Canada, Sweden and France will also be competing in the trials for the right to face the Americans, who have held the trophy since the inaugural race in 1851.

"We don't expect it to be easy for us in America," Azzurra official, Skibinska, admitted. But it's very important for us to be there."

The Italian effort is being financed by a consortium of 17 leading names in Italian industry, led by the Aga Khan, developer of the Costa Smeralda resort on the Island of Sardinia. The programme is budgeted to cost $6m and The Azzurra team have spared no expense for their America's Cup challenge, buying Enterprise the former US cup contender, for use as a a pace boat against their own craft.

In January, the syndicate's technical director, Cino Ricci, and candidates for the crew began putting the new yacht through her paces in the Gulf of Greta at Formia, 50 miles north of Naples. After three months of daily racing and practice runs, Ricci, a world-class yachtsman with a string of more than 200 race successes, announced his final crew selection.

The 19 members and six reserves are due to arrive in the United States in May where they face almost two months of unstinting competition from the other five challenging nations. The fastest yacht qualifies to compete against the American entry.

The Azzurra takes its name from the dark Blue colours worn by Italian national sports teams, made famous by the footballers

Ricci and his crew put the boat through a series of final trials against the Enterprise late last month in an attempt to simulate as closely as possible the racing conditions expected off Newport. And the Azzurra crew went weightlifting and jogging at an Italian Olympic sports centre in Formia after each exhausting day on board.

MOTOR RACING

Arrows cannot afford to pay fee for Jones

From John Blunsden, Le Castellet

Alan Jones is out of the French Grand Prix on Sunday because his team have not found sufficient sponsorship.

Jackie Oliver, the Arrows team director, said: "At present we are unable to pay Alan the fee which a driver of his ability can command and for him to continue driving for us before a major sponsor has been secured would place an unacceptable financial drain on the team's resources."

The team have secured relatively modest local sponsorship from an amusement park for the race. The Australian's car will be taken over by Chico Serra, of Brazil. Jones has agreed to drive an Arrows car once a big sponsor has been found to enable the team to develop fully the latest Ford-powered Arrows A6.

"My agreement with Arrows runs until the end of May," he said. "At which time we will make a reassessment of the situation. This may even include me considering a return to Australia.

Oliver is not so pessimistic: "Alan's two performances in the car have produced so much interest that we are optimistic about being able to have him driving with us again at the next race at Imola."

The Formula One Commission could not reach unanimous agreement yesterday on banning mid-race refuelling on the grounds of safety. Brabham, Williams, Tyrrell, Renault, Ferrari and Alfa Romeo have applied for refuelling facilities in the pits.

The circuit inspector, Derek Ongaro, is concerned that not all the teams may have fully adequate fire protection clothing for all their personnel or will have the skill to refuel rapidly in confined space.

There will be a special refuelling lane in the pits area on race day to ease the position. Next year all refuelling will be banned. This season, while there remains an advantage in starting with half-full tanks and running on softer tyres, some teams seem determined not to agree to any earlier change in the rules.


Jones: out of the race

CRICKET

Australia in serious warm-ups

Australia will play two first class matches in preparation for the Prudential World Cup starting on June 9. While most of the other seven visiting contestants are contenting themselves with one day games, the Australians will play a county knocked out of the Benson and Hedges Cup from June 1-4 and have arranged another match, with New Zealand at Arundel, starting on June 4.

Their only other "warm-up" game is a one-day match with New Zealand at The Oval on June 7. West Indies, the holders, have so far arranged three matches – one day fixtures against Yorkshire at Hull, Gloucestershire at Bristol and Pakistan at Leicester.

FIXTURES (one-day unless stated): May 26: Sri Lankans v Minor Counties XI (Hertford). Zimbabweans v Birmingham League (Mitchells and Butlers). May 27: Sri Lankans v Club Cricket Conference (Teddington), Zimbabweans v Midlands Club Cricket Conference (Stratford). May 28: New Zealanders v Zimbabweans (Mossley). May 30: Geoff Howarth Benefit Match (Westminster School), Sri Lanka v United Services (Portsmouth, two days). Zimbabweans v Minor Counties (Bedford School, two days). June 1: Australians v first class county to be decided (three days), New Zealanders v first class county, Sri Lankans v first class county, Zimbabweans v first class county. June 3: New Zealanders v Indians (Watford), Pakistanis v Surrey (Oval), Sri Lankans v Zimbabweans (Fenners). West Indies v Yorkshire (Hull). June 4: New Zealanders v Australians (Arundel, three days), Indians v Minor Counties (Monks Risborough), Pakistanis v West Indies (Leicester), Sri Lankans v Cambridge University (Fenners). June 5: Zimbabweans v Leicester (Leicester). June 6: Sri Lankans v Indians (Leicester). West Indies v Gloucestershire (Bristol). June 7: Australians v New Zealand (Oval), Indians v Sri Lankans (Slough), Zimbabweans v Pakistan (Uxbridge).

West Indies go back to Bacchus

Bridgetown, Barbados (Reuter) – Unless injury problems develop overnight, West Indies will make just one change to the side which drew the Third Test. Faoud Bacchus, who pulled out of the game with a sprained ankle, replaces Augustine Logie.

'India, who will name their team tomorrow, fielded the same eleven in the first three tests, but this time they will make at least one change, leaving out the 17-year-old left-arm spinner, Maninder Singh. The leg-spinner, Sivaramakrishnan, also 17, staked his claim by taking three wickets against Barbados, but conditions favourable to pace and swing might bring the veteran all-rounder, Madan Lal, into contention.

● Kingston, Jamaica (Reuter) – Sixty-eight per cent of Jamaicans polled by the Daily Gleaner supported this year's tour of South Africa by rebel West Indian cricketers, the Jamaican newspaper said

A prize tonic

Schweppes, who are sponsoring the county cricket champinship for the last time, have increased the prize money by £3,300 to £50,000. The county champions will receive £14,000 (£13,000 in 1982), the runners-up £7,000 (£6,500), with £3,500 (£3,250) for third place and £1,750 (£1,650) for fourth. Counties will earn £150 for every victory and £5 per bonus point as in 1982.

FISHING

Quite a buzz about the spider and the fly

By Conrad Voss Bark

Trout fishing begins at varying times, late on the chalk streams, early on the spate rivers, but Easter is traditionally the time when there is mass invasion of eager anglers along the banks of the reservoirs and lakes, all filled with the exuberance that comes with the opening of the season after the long dark days of winter.

An interesting speculation, but there are signs, perhaps glimpses might be the right word, of something happening to the lake fisherman. A mood is stirring. One hears of it through friends. One is conscious of it one's self. There is the occasional paragraph in the angling journals. Is the vogue for imitative patterns, the deceivers, replicas of nymphs and pupae intricately and elaborately designed as copies of the real insect, in fur and feather and plastic, falling out of fashion?

It started, you may remember, with Dr Bell of Blagdon in the 1920s, when he abandoned the sea trout and salmon flies of his day in favour of trying to create upon the hook fairly accurate representations of the various bugs and larvae which he found in the stomachs of the trout. Imitation bait fishing was in. It rose to heights. Everyone who was anyone would always fish it. No one must say a word against it.

Yet now the word has been said. Suprisingly, it comes not from the small fashionable lakes of the south but from a Midland reservoir fisherman in the current number of Trout Fisherman magazine. The headline to the article, dispelling disbelief, as headlines should, announces "Modern buzzer imitations are now obsolete, says Britian's No 1 nymph fisher, Arthur Cove". Mr Cove is equally forthright. He doesn't use buzzers any more. Spider patterns are far better. Shades of Bell and Walker and Lane!

We are assured, probably by the same man who wrote the headline, that Mr Cove . . . "remains the hero of thousands of trout anglers", but will he remain so after destroying what is presumably still one of their most cherished beliefs? The spider pattern he extols, which is illustrated, is none other than the Williams's Favourite, a standard, old-fashioned, traditional wet fly, of ancient lineage, going back beyond Dr Bell, and with the silver rib removed going back at least to the early 1800s. Thus far have we made progress.

Quite a number of other fishermen have discovered similar things to Mr Cove, the main being that the traditional wet fly has great virtues and is too frequently neglected. Winged patterns, providing the wing is tied so that it is very nearly parallel to the line of the hook shank, crate illusions of life and movement in such traditional dressings as the Connemara Black and the Invicta, that are a kind of magic. The wet fly is a conjuring trick.

This is what Mr Cove must have discovered about spiders. They do not copy the buzzer pupa in the least. There is no elaborate abdomen and thorax or little bits of white stuff to imitate the breathing tubes. Nothing of that nonsense. They are emblems of light and air. The hackle suggests life and movement. The light and the movement alter with the changing light and the changing ripple. They create illusions.

Mr Cove is not the first fisherman by any means to have discovere this, nor would he claim to have done so. It has been talked about now for a number of years. The implications, however, are embarrassing. If one accepts the theory of the creation of illusions then one has to admit that for half a century or so we have been following false trails in fly dressing and that our grandfathers knew a great deal more about the subject than we do. The idea takes a lot of getting used to.

Former chairman

George Wodehouse, a former Queen's Park Rangers player who succeeded his father as their chairman, has died in hospital at Herstmonceux, Sussex aged 87.

RACKETS

Boone in the semi-final

By Roy McKelvie

William Boone, the number two seeded player, reached the semi-final of the open rackets championship sponsored by Celestion loudspeakers at Queen's club yesterday. He beat Shannon Hazell, the Wellington professional, by 15-6, 15-0, 17-14, the loser holding three points for the last game, but never being given much chance of winning any of them.

There is, as yet, no sign of a change in the pecking order at this game. All eight seeded players reached the quarter finals without being seriously challenged. From what has happened over the past few years, John Prenn, the holder, and Boone, remain solidly at the head of the pack. Boone has not beaten Prenn since he won the amateur championship in 1981.

These two are followed by Randall Crawley, Mark and Paul Nicholls. Crawley is the stylist – a Lionel Palairet if you read Alan Gibson – but without much body to his game. The Nicholls brothers are the more robust challengers, strong and vigorous but certainly not Palairets or C B Frys.

Then come the professionals, Norwood Cripps of Eton and Hazell who, when not beng overwhelmed by Boone, show that he has the makings of a top class player, possessing a good eye, wrist and ball sense, most necessary assets at this game.

IN BRIEF

ACAS help in dispute

A meeting was being held last night between Bramley's direcors and players in an effort to resolve the dispute that arose last week when the club sought to cut winning bonuses from £85 to £40. The move came after talks at Rugby League headquarters in Leeds between representatives of the club, the players, the players' union, and ACAS.

It is thought some form of compromise has been recommended by the ACAS representative, Bob Burns.

Bramley, who were forced to call off their last game againstDewsbury, because ofthe dispute, are scheduled to receive Salford on Sunday.

TENNIS: Christopher (Buster) Mottram and the defending champion Manuel Orantes, are among the eight seeds for next week's State Express Classic at Bournemouth.

Orantes is seeded three and Mottram six.

Also seeded is the Hungarian Balazs Taroczy who, with Heinz Gunthardt has won the World Doubles Championship in London for the past two years.

BOXING: John Lyon (England), the light flyweight and Harold Hylton (England), the heavyweight were the only ABA champions to progress from the semi-final stage of the George Wimpey sponsored event at Preston. Lyon outpointed the Scot James Rae and Hylton, a Commonwealth silver medalist stopped the Welshman Les Davies in the first round but Davies's compatriot David Griffiths knocked out Wayne Green (England) in their bout.

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Toronto Blue Jays 7, Milwaukee Brewers 2; Cleveland Indians 4, Texas Rangers 3; Oakland A's 5, Minnesota Twins 4; Detroit Tigers 7, New York Yankees 5; Boston Red Sox 18, Kansas City Royals 4; California Angels 8, Seattle Mariners 1.
NATIONAL LEAGUE: St Louis Cardinals 9, Pittsburgh Pirates 1; Atlanta Braves 6, Cincinatti Reds 1; Philadelphia Phillies 10, New York Mets 9; San Diego Padres 2, San Francisco Giants 1; Los Angeles Dodgers 5, Houston Astros 3.

CYCLING

HUY: Belgium: Fleche Wallone Classic (168 miles): 1, B Hinault (Fr); 2, R Rittinger (Fr); 3, H Seyz (Switz); 4, E Schippers (Bel); 5, J Boyer (US); 6, J Zoetemelk (Neth).

FOOTBALL

INTERNATIONALS: Portugal 0, Hungary 0; Switzerland 0, USSR 1.
FOOTBALL COMBIATION: Fulham 3, Luton 2; Leicester 2, Oxford 0; Millwall 0, Tottenham Hotspur 0.
SPANISH CUP: Quarter-finals, second leg: Sevill 1, Real Madrid 2 (Real won 4-2 on aggregate); Barcelona 3, Athletic Bilbao 0 (Barcelona won 3-1); Sporting 5, Espanol 0 (Sporting won 5-1); Real Sociedad 3, Real Valladolio 0 (Sociedad won 3-1).

Ickx back again

Organizers of the le Mans 24-hour race have received 63 entries for this year's event on June 18, eight more than the number of cars they can accept. Jacky Ickx, of Belgium, will be attempting a sixth title with the help of Britain's Derek Bell, who partnered him to victory last year.

Foul throws

Belgrade. – The Yugoslav basketball championship final is to be replayed. Sibenka-Sibenik beat Bosna-Sarajevo 83–82 after Sibenka had converted two free throws in the last minute. The national federation upheld complaints that the throws should not have been awarded.

SWIMMING: Kathy Read is out of the British team to meet the Dutch at Blackpool on April 23 and 24. She had her appendix removed at the weekend. Samantha Purvis will deputize in the 200m backstroke.

SPEED SKATING

NAGOYA, Japan: International short track competition finals: Winners: Men: 1,000 metres: L Grenier (Can), 1 min 39.58 sec. 3,000 metres: T Ishihara (Jap) 5:08.15 (world record). Overall: 1, G Daignault (Can), 13 pts. 5,000-metre relay: Canada, 7:53.89. Overall: Canada, 36 pts. Women: 1,000 metres: S Daigle (Can), 1:48.86. 3,000 metres: H Takeuchi (Jap), 5:37.47 (world record). Overall: Daignault 12pts. Canada 27 pts. 3,000 metres relay: Canada, 5:1.86.

CRICKET

HARARE: Zimbabwe 127 (D Fletcher 44, R McCurdy 4 for 37), Young Australians 97 for 8 (P Rawson 5 for 37).

CURLING

REGINA, Western Canada: Men's World Championships: Fifth Round: Canada 9, Sweden 8; Scotland 5, West Germany 4; Denmark 11, Austria 2; Norway 9, Switzerland 6; US 11, Italy 1. Standings: Scotland, Norway, Canada, West Germany 4 wins, 1 defeat; Sweden, US 3-2; Switzerland, Denmark, Austria 1-4, Italy 0-5.

England's new caps

England Schoolboys have three newcomers in their team to play Netherlands at Hoogeveeen on Saturday. They are the goalkeeper, Trevor Lake, Aidan Murphy, a defender, and Tony Nesbit, a midfield.

TEAM: Lake (Colchester); M Thomas (South London, captain), D Crumpton (Thurrock), A Murphy (Manchester), D O'Brien (Bootle), G Peacock (North Kent), N Rimmer (North Sefton), A Nesbit (Sunderland), D White (Sunderland), I Scott (Bury), K Goddard (Leeds).

Champions all

All the past 12 winners, including Jack Nicklaus, are lined up to compete in the 20th anniversary celebration of the world matchplay championship, sponsored by Suntory at Wentworth from October 6 to 9. Prize money will go up by £25,000 for a record total of £150,000. The winner will receive £35,000.

MOTOR CYCLING: Barry Sheene rides in Saturday's World of Sport superbike challenge and Sunday's international 500cc Gold Cup, at Donington Park.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

SECOND DIVISION: Derby County 1, Charlton Athletic 1
SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION: Albion Rovers 2, Cowdenbeath 0; Meadowbank Thistle 1, Stranraer 0.
YOUTH INTERNATIONAL MATCH: England 1, Belgium 1.
INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: East Germany 3, Bulgaria 0; Portugal 0, Hungary 0.
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Maidstone 5, Worcester 0.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Fareham 2, Corby 0; Welling 2, Hastings 0. Midland division: Sutton Coldfield 4, Cheltenham 1. Southern division: Dover 0, Ashford 2; Folkestone 2, Andover 0.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Chesham 2, Metropolitan Police 0. Second division: Barton 5, Corinthian-Casuals 3; Molesey 0, Egham 2.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Morecambe 1, Matlock 0; Southport 0, Grantham 2.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Blackburn 3, Wolves 1; Blackpool 0 West Bromwich 2; Bury 1, Liverpool 1. Second division: Sunderland 4, Bolton 0; Wigan 3, Port Vale 1.
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Norwich 3, Crystal Palace 2; Reading 1, Birmingham 1; Leicester 2, Oxford 0.
DUTCH CUP: Semi-finals, second leg: PSV Eindhoven 2, Ajax Amsterdam 0; (agg: 2-2: Ajax win on penalties): NEC Nijmegen 0, Haarlem 0 (Agg: 2-2: Nijmegen win on penalties).

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Bridgend 25, Cross Keys 8; Bristol 46, Exeter 10; Ebbw Vale 6, Maesteg 7; Newport 7 Pontypool 28.

BOXING

ABA Championships, semi finals: Featherweight: P Bradley (Scot) bt C Lynch (Eng) pts; K Taylor (Eng) bt G McLaggan (Wal) pts. Welterweight: B McKenley (Eng) bt W Teague (Wal) 2nd round; T Campbell (Scot) bt C Blake (Eng) pts; Light Middleweight: R Douglas (Eng) bt D Milligan (Scot) pts, J Mellah (Eng) bt A Price (Wal) pts; Light flyweight: D Porter (Eng) bt P Shone (Wal) 2nd round; J Lyon (Eng) bt J Rae (Scot) pts. Fly: S Nolan (Eng) bt D Toone (Wal) 3rd round; P Clinton (Scot) bt S Murphy (Eng) 2nd round. Bantam: K Ward (Wal) bt B Jones (Eng) pts; J Hyland (Eng) bt D Lee (Scot) pts. Light Heavy: T Wilson (Eng) bt H Allan (Scot) 3rd round; C Edwards (Eng) bt M Pesson (Wal), Ko 2nd. Middle: B Schumacher (Combined Services) bt G Bell (Scot) 3rd round. Heavy: H Hylton (Eng) bt L Davies (Wal) 3rd round; H Notice (Eng) bt J Brown (Scot) pts. Super Heavy: G Williamson (Eng) bt A Campbell (Scot) 1st round; K Ferdinand (Eng) bt C Jacobs (Wal) pts.; Lightweight: K Willis (Eng) bt A Dickson (Scot) pts, G Rogers (Eng) bt N Haddock (Wal) 2nd round; Light Welter: D Dent (Eng) bt W Buchanan (Scot) pts; D Griffiths (Wal) bt W Green (Eng) Ko 1st; Middle: T Forbes (Eng) bt A Motte (Wal) walkover.

هكذا من الأصل

RACING

Speedy Habibti to confirm early promise

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

The 1,000 Guineas will be uppermost in the mind again at Newbury today when nine three-year-old fillies compete for the Fred Darling Stakes. This year the classic trial has been sponsored by the Gainsborough Stud whose owner, Sheikh Maktoum Al Maktoum, has become one of the most prolific owners of racehorses in this country, along with his brothers, Sheikh Hamdan Al Maktoum and Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum.

Hopes of keeping the prize in the family rest with Flamenco who was bought by Sheikh Mohammed after she had won her first three races last year. I prefer Habibti, another filly with Middle Eastern connexions whose owner, Mohammed Mutawa, now has the Sussex Stud.

Being by that influential stallion Habitat, out of a full sister to that high-class sprinter d'Unberville, Habibti will be a lovely addition to that stud even if she never wins another race because she put her stamp on last season by winning the three races she contested, at Ascot, York and The Curragh. However, I will be disappointed if she does not turn out to be every bit as good and probably even better this season.

Habibti certainly has the size and the scope to train on and do well as a three-year-old. At present she is third only behind Ma Biche and yesterday's impressive winner Favoridge in the 1,000 Guineas betting. Habibti is trained by John Dunlop who also trained Quick As Lightning to win the 1,000 two seasons ago. That filly also had her preparatory race here at Newbury but she could finish only third in it, albeit after a very unlucky run. This time Dunlop is hoping for better things, although he is the first to concede that Habibti will be better for the race.

Much will depend on how her principal rivals have also wintered, notably Goodbye Shelley and Flamenco because Habibti was not that much about them in the Free Handicap to suggest she has a lot in hand now. Goodbye Shelley's big moment came in Paris in the autumn when she won the converted Prix Marcel Boussac on Arc day. That race was over a mile on soft ground so she will have no difficulty in lasting the battle today on ground that will be every bit as testing. However, I believe that the speed that took Habibti past Royal Heroine in the closing stages of the Lowther Stakes at York last August will be the deciding factor, even on this ground.

Twelve months ago Barry Hills and Steve Cauthen came up trumps in this race when Slightly Dangerous won, carrying the pale blue colours of Alan Clore. Now the same combination will be represented by Nibalu who ran so well to finish third at Ascot in the autumn, in her only race as a two-year-old. But like the other maidens in the field, Current Raiser and Page Blanche, she will be meeting all the previous winners on disadvantageous terms. Page Blanche, the newcomer, is a half-sister to Premier Ministre, a good horse in the United States.

Stage Coach, Henry Cecil's runner in the Spring Maiden Stakes, is a superbly bred colt by Luthier out of Glass Slipper, who has already bred two classic winners, Fairy Footsteps and Light Cavalry. But Stage Coach did not show much in his only race as a two-year-old at Doncaster and I prefer Firmament, whose encouraging race behind Russian Roubles in the Houghton Stakes at Newmarket last October augured rather better.

Debaj, my selection for the Crieveley Stakes, was runner-up to Shanleys Style at Salisbury last Saturday. Now he will be meeting the same horse, who had the advantage of a previous outing at Leicester, on 7lb better terms.

Finally, old Popsi's Joy, who ran so well in the Queen's Prize at Kempton, should be a tough nut to crack in the Thatcham Stakes over two miles.

● Heavy rain has forced Wolverhampton to reduce its safety limits for racing there next Monday and Tuesday a spokesman said: "Due to the state of the new ground on the bend into the straight, safety figures on the round course have been reduced." The new limits are 10 runners in races of seven, eight and nine furlongs, 14 in races over the one mile 3 furlongs course, and 16 in races of a mile and a half. The 5 furlong limit is unaltered.



Impressive Favoridge winning the Nell Gwyn Stakes at Newmarket yesterday.

Fleet-footed Favoridge

By Michael Seely

The build-up to the classics continued at Newmarket yesterday. Favoridge is now top quoted at 7-1 for the 1,000 Guineas after showing an explosive turn of speed to beat Annie Edge and Royal Heroine in the Nell Gwyn Stakes. On the 2,000 Guineas front Ladbroke's have laid Gorytus to lose £50,000 at all rates from 6-1 to 4-1. And after Dick Hern had won the Rowley Maiden stakes with Schuss the trainer said, "Gorytus looks a picture. He has been working well and has pleased me in every way."

Favoridge's victory was a joy to watch. Pat Eddery kept Amaranda's half-sister about three lengths off the pace as Annie Edge made the running. At the bushes the issue clearly lay between Annie Edge, Royal Heroine and Favoridge. Racing into the dip Eddery sent the favourite to the front. Lengthening he stride impressively, Favoridge won easing up by 1½ lengths with Royal Heroine only a head away third.

Geoffrey Wragg was delighted with the winner's performance. "I have no doubts at all about he getting the extra furlong in the Guineas. She appeared not to stay when beaten by Ma Biche in the last Autumn's Cheveley Park Stakes because Eddery had kept her about eight lengths behind the leaders in the early stages. Consequently she had to burn up her speed to reach a challenging position and had nothing in reserve when Ma Biche found a bit extra."

The prospect of the pair meeting again is exciting to say the least. Ma Biche has already pleased Criquette Head with her fluent victory at Maisons Laffitte. And Michael Stoute is by no means despondent about Royal Heroine. "She will improve a deal as a result of that race. Royal Heroine has not yet come in her coat. What we need will be clearer when Habibti has run in this afternoon's Fred Darling Stakes at Newbury.

Schuss's victory gave both Hern and Willie Carson their first strike of 1983. Electric's half-brother was clear of his field two furlongs from home and beat Welsh Glory by four lengths. The three-year-old is owned in partnership by Lord Porchester and the colt's breeder Bob McCreery.

As far as the 2,000 Guineas is concerned all eyes will now be focused on Danzatore when he runs in tomorrow's McCairns Stakes at Phoenix Park. A satisfactory performance by Danny Schwartz's Northern Dancer colt would see an inevitable shortening in his price. There is a great deal of uncertainty as the first of the colt's classics approaches.

The good form shown by Guy Harwood's three-year-olds continued when Greville Starkey extricated Zoffany from an impossible position to beat Onslow in the Gerry Feilden Stakes.

The even money favourite was trapped in a hopeless position a furlong and a half from home but a gap suddenly appeared. Starkey and Zoffany were through it like a flash and at the finish they were well in command of the situation. "He's become lazy and needs better ground," said Harwood. "I hope Zoffany will stay and I plan to run him in the Heathorn Stakes at the Guineas meeting."

The Pulborough trainer has not given up hope about Northern Adventure running in the big race. This is the unbeaten colt by Far North who was ante-post favourite for the Free Handicap but was withdrawn. "Northern Adventure had not been working well. But there's no reason why he should not suddenly come to himself. I'd love to run him because he's the same horse as Sackford at home."

Paul Kelleway's magnificent run of success continued when Solimile gave the Newmarket trainer his fifth victory of the season in the Ladbroke's Boldboy Sprint Handicap. The winning jockey Edward Hide is now leading rider with five victories to his credit. Earlier in the afternoon that capable young rider Joey Brown had shown a cool head when bringing Percase with a well-timed run to beat Bold Print in the second round of the *Daily Mirror* Apprentice Championship.

The winning trainer Ian Balding said that the Queen's colt Special Leave would run at Sandown next week in the Guardian Classic Trial and that his recent Italian winner Drumalis would go for the Guineas.

RUGBY UNION

The reign of the boot should get some marching orders

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

By a mischievous quirk of fate, the Saturday which followed the conclusion of an international championship dominated by the penalty goal produced a Cup game containing only 14 penalty awards, of which three were kicks at goal. Is it therefore, the system that is at fault or the players and referees who operate within the system?

This season's championship produced an aggregate of 325 points of which 165 came from penalties and 104 from tries. The proportion would have been greater had France fielded anything like a consistent goalkicker – think what Jean-Pierre Romeu would have made of the penalty awards France received against England and Wales alone.

The John Player Cup semi-final between London Scottish and Leicester contained only 14 penalties, from which Dusty Hare kicked once for goal and missed, and Stuart Irvine kicked twice for goal and scored once.

Cup matches, it is commonly said, tend to be tight affairs in which the penalty is expected to play a large part. Both John Player semi-finals (Bristol scored four tries, two converted, in their 23 – 3 win over Coventry) suggested this is not necessarily the case, assuming the teams concerned have an eye for the tries chance and the skills to exploit it. Certainly Fred Howard from Liverpool, the referee at Richmond had some cause for satisfaction when the game ended.

So what remains in questions is the level of skill of the players, their attitude to the game and the attitude of the referee controlling the game. The last, is, of necessity, biased by the players' approach; if they wish to play the game in a constructive manner nine times out of ten the referee will be in sympathy with them. If the players set out to play a negative game and evince on the way, either ignorance of or disregard for the law, the referee has little option but to punish them.

His punishment, too, must be seen to be so. General correspondents this season have suggested a variety of amendments to the laws and points values. One proposition has been to make the try worth five points and the conversion one, leaving the penalty worth three points, which the writer asserts, would underline the supremacy of the try against the penalty without altering the game's basic aspects.

Another correspondent, Adrian Barr-Smith from London, queries the custom which allows kickers to retreat from the place where a penalty is awarded so as to make for an easier attempt at goal. What, he asks, is the rationale for this ruling? "The kicker is not allowed to select the spot on the same latitude so why should he be allowed to select a different spot on the same longitude?"

Mr Barr-Smith feels that if all penalties were taken where they were awarded, kickers would think twice when faced with a narrow angle, more attempts would be made to cross the try line, particularly in the corners, or to pass the ball in field with a view to a drop goal attempt.

The justification for taking the kick back from the place of the awards is, I understand, to ensure that the offending team receive their due punishment.

I have a lot of sympathy for Mr Barr-Smith's suggestion, which would not force teams to think about developing more short penalty moves but would give customers more value for money by keeping the ball in play rather than waiting while the kicker makes his preparations. At the same time anyone kicking at goal from near touch, ten metres from the try line, and scoring, probably deserves the points.

That having been said, the skill of the goal kicker should not be overlooked. It is as much of an art and test of nerves as any other part of the game, and if we are considering tradition and custom the origin of the name of the try was because a "touchdown" formerly permitted a "try" at goal. Which brings us back to the offences for which a kick at goal should be permitted and the causes of those offences.

It is a characteristic of rugby players by and large, that they seldom query the referee's interpretation of the laws. In turn the referee should rect, and have endeavoured beforehand, to ensure he knows what the players are trying to achieve. When these two go hand in hand the "value" of the penalty is rationed and rationalized.

Schools rugby

England hope to show up seniors

By Michael Stevenson

Schools rugby moves to a signifiacant climax tomorrow at Pontypridd, mid Glamorgan, where England meet Wales at 18-group level; both sides have defeated Ireland, Scotland and France, so what might be termed "The Junior Grand Slam" is at stake.

Those of us who have seen England's skilled and purposeful play this winter cannot have failed to have been impressed; in addition their record (70 points scored to only three conceded) speaks for itself, though Wales (62 points to 13 conceded) is almost as spectactular.

The unluckiest member of the England squad si Flaherty, the West Park wing. Sims, the England captain, a fine centre, went off injured against at Gosforth, and Crawford, his replacement, after a reshuffle came on to the wing. He proceeded to score two tries against France,made another and folowed that with a third in England's victory over Scotland at Aberdeen last Saturday.

Perhaps, predictably, poor Flaherty (barring injuries, that is) will watch Saturday's match from the replacement bench. It would certainly provide a piquancy to the season's close, to English eyes at least, if their juniors could succeed, where their seniors have so signally failed.

The intense centralization of Welsh, Irish and Scots rugby to relatively small areas, has often been cited as a built-in advantage whihch tends to offset England's numerical superiority. An area like Cumbria can easily become neglected, if not forgotten. (The new county championship system had done nothing to improve this state of affairs.)

It sis especially pleasing to note that Cumbrian schools have enjoyed a reasonably successful season, winning four of their eight matches, the most recent at Carlisle (21-12) last Friday aginst Surrey.

Their efforts, however, have been dwarfed by the exploits of the county colts. A colt is: "a player who is under 19 on January 1 of the current season and is in, or registered for, employment". *(RFU Handook)* The standard of Colts' rugby is high and is improving all the time.

On January 24, the Cornwall Colts made the long trek north to Carlisle, where they lost the National colts county championships final to Cumbria by a try and a pernalty to a goal, a dropped goal and two penalties (15-7).

Those who would like to see some high-class colts rugby should go to the Chester Rugby Clu this Sunday, where a Colts county 7-a-sode tournament is to be sponsored by Express Dairies.

Tour will go ahead say French

Paris, (AFP)–The French Rugby Federation president Albert Ferrasse, still hopeful he can save the Jnne tour of South Africa, will not convene his management committee until tempers have cooled following last week's government intervention. "There is no point in us meeting while emotions are still running so high," he said in an interview with *L'equipe*, the French sports journal.

In the meantime, Mr Ferrasse is to meet with the sports minister, Edwige Avice on Monday to clarify several points. "If we had received formal notification from the government, ordering us not to go, then there would be no argument. We would have accepted the decision," he said. "however, there are several points in her letter we cannot accept."

Mr Ferrasse said the minister's letter asked amateur sports federations to break off all contact with South Africa while allowing professional sports to decide for themselves. "that is discrimination," he said. But he added that he was "quietly confident" that a solution could be found.

In another interview, in the magazine Paris Match, the captain of the French team, Jean-Pierre Rives, said he was ready to go to South Africa despite the government appeal. He said his experience of South Africa – he has toured four times – had shown him that "a wave of a magic wand – and particularly a boycott – would not change the situation."

Jones out of Welsh final

Pontypool's Welsh international prop forward, Staff Jones, will not play in the Welsh Cup final against Swansea on April 30. The club do not want him to risk his place on the British Lions tour of New Zealand which begins a few days after the final at Cardiff.

John Scott, the England No 8 who missed selection for the Lions, has been nominated for another term as captain of Cardiff, which will give him a unique run of four consecutive seasons.

Swansea are still nicely placed to achieve a cup and championship double, despite losing at Cardiff last week, but they will need to play well at Aberavon who have been producing quality rugby in a winning run. Swansea can not afford to lose with Pontypool and Newbridge so close.

Aberavon are likely to be without Knight, their prop, who is recovering from a knee injury and their veteran international lock, Martin. Swansea, despite having three players who have represented Wales at full back, have a problem in that position.

Douglas has a shoulder injury sustained in the last international of the season, Donovan is ill and Blyth was taken off against Cardiff.

Newbury

Draw: no advantage
Tote double 3.0, 4.0. Treble 2.30, 3.30 and 4.30
[Television (BBC1) 2.30, 3.0 and 3.30 races]

2.0 BECKHAMPTON STAKES (2-y-o maidens: £1,774: 5f) (9 runners)

102 BOCODA LAD (E Hill) C Benstead 9-0 ... B Rouse 2
104 COUNT d'ARCY (A Boon) B Hills 9-0 ... S Cauthen 4
105 MANDOWN LAD (P Bourke) K Brassey 9-0 ... B Crossley 9
108 MEIG (A Macdonald-Buchanan) R Houghton 9-0 ... J Reid 8
110 MR ROCHESTER (A Herbage) G Balding 9-0 ... W Higgins 1
111 READY WIT (Mrs R Tennant) R Hannon 9-0 ... P Eddery 7
112 0 RUN HOT (A Lansley) W Wightman 9-0 ... W Newnes 5
115 TOP OF THE STRETCH (J Hogan) R Hannon 9-0 ... R Wernham 3
117 TUSITALA (Esal Commodities) G Lewis 9-0 ... P Waldron 6

5-2 County d'Arcy, 7-2 Tusitala, 5 Meig, 7 Top Of The Stretch, 10 Mr Rochester, 12 Ready Wit, 14 others.

2.30 SPRING STAKES (3-y-o maidens: £1,132: 1m 3f) (18)

201 0- ACK ACK REGIMENT (Dr K Menon) P Cole 9-0 ... – 17
204 00- BALLADIER (L Holliday) H Candy 9-0 ... W Newnes 5
208 0- CONSCRIPTION (J Rowles) R Houghton 9-0 ... J Reid 6
210 FIERY CROSS (G Meyrick) P Cole 9-0 ... T Quinn 5 1
211 00- FIRMAMENT (C Karpidas) P Walwyn 9-0 ... J Mercer 18
212 0- FLEETING KNIGHT (P Winfield) J Dunlop 9-0 ... B Rouse 8
213 4-0 HOT TOUCH (E Moller) G Wragg 9-0 ... B Crossley 15
215 03- NIALAN (L Goldschlager) J Sutcliffe 9-0 ... W Carson 13
216 ORANGE REEF (Bechkhampton) J Tree 9-0 ... S Raymont 7
217 00- SARATINO (Mrs J McDougald) I Balding 9-0 ... J Matthias 16
219 0- SHENTON WAY (Mrs P Yong) M Jarvis 9-0 ... P Young 3
220 SOBER SAM (Mrs C Notley) R Voorspuy 9-0 ... J Johnson 11
222 0- STAGE COACH (H Joel) H Cecil 9-0 ... L Piggott 9
224 00- TOUCH TENDER (Elisha Holding) A Ingham 9-0 ... G Ramshaw 4
229 0- BLACK VEIL (J Blumenow) M Blanshard 8-11 ... P Waldron 12
230 0- CIVILITY (A Lillingston) J Tree 8-11 ... Pat Eddery 2
232 MUCH MISSED (Summerhill Stud) Miss A Sinclair 8-11 ... R Still 10
233 00- PARADISE REGAINED (A Sexton) M Usher 8-11 ... D McKay 14

7-2 Hot Touch, 9-2 Stage Coach, 5 Firmament, 6 Nialan, 8 Ack Ack Regiment, Civility, 10 Saratino, 12 Balladier, 16 others.

3.0 GAINSBOROUGH STUD FRED DARLING STAKES (Group III 3-y-o fillies: £13,292: 7f 60yd) (9)

302 00002-4 CURRENT RAISER (Lord Matthews) C Brittain 9-0 ... P Robinson 3
303 1114- FLAMENCO (Sheikh Mohammed) I Balding 9-0 ... Pat Eddery 2
304 013231- GOODBYE SHELLEY (B) (Mrs S Brook) S Norton 9-0 ... J Lowe 9
305 111- HABIBTI (M Mutawa) J Dunlop 9-0 ... W Carson 8
307 3- NIBALU (A Clore) B Hills 9-0 ... S Cauthen 1
308 PAGE BLANCHE (D Wildenstein) P Kelleway 9-0 ... E Hide 7
309 23101- RARE ROBERTS (Gulting Stud Ltd) P Cole 9-0 ... J Reid 6
311 321141- SILK SARI (W Jones jun) G Harwood 9-0 ... G Starkey 4
314 213-0 SWIFT TO CONQUER (R Swift) R J Williams 9-0 ... R Cochrane 5

15-8 Habibti, 3 Flamenco, 4 Goodbye Shelley, 6 Silk Sari, 8 Rare Robert, 11 Nibalu, 14 Current Raiser, 16 others.

FORM: Current Raiser (9-3) 4th beaten 11l to Sul-El-Ah (rec 14lb) 9 ran. Kempton 1m stks soft Apr 2. Flamenco (8-11) 4th beaten 3l to Saving Mercy (rec 4lb) 7 ran. Newmarket 7f stks good Oct 15. Goodbye Shelley (8-9) won sh hd from Mysterieuse Etoile (level) 11 ran. Longchamp 1m stks heavy Oct 3. Habibti (8-11) won 1½l from Minnelli (level) 15 ran. Curragh 6f stks good to yielding Sep 11. Nibalu (8-3) 3rd beaten 5½l to Northern Adventure (gave 3lb) 10 ran. Ascot 6f stks heavy Oct 8. Rare Roberts (8-3) won 1½l from Ismore (rec 14lb) 17 ran. Haydock 6f h'cap soft Oct 2. Silk Sari (8-10) won 1½l from Challenging (gave 3lb) 12 ran. Chepstow 7f stks good to firm. Sep 11. Swift To Conquer (8-4) 9th beaten over 9l to El Gitano (gave 3 rec 3lb) 12 ran. Doncaster 7f h'cap good to soft Mar 26.
SELECTION: Flamenco.

3.30 CRIEVELEY HANDICAP (3-y-o: £2,807: 5f) (8)

401 101210- WIKI WIKI WHEELS (CD) (P Savill) C Nelson 9-7 ... L Piggott 6
402 39211-4 CHAPLIN'S CLUB (D) (Hewcastle Ltd) I Walker 9-4 ... W Carson 5
403 4000-11 SHANLEYS STYLE (D) (Mrs C Orme) Mrs J Reavey 9-4 (7 ex) ... T Rogers 4
404 21000-1 SHASTA SAM (Heathavon Stables Ltd) R Hollinshead 9-3 ... S Parks 3
405 01-2 DEBAJ (D) (M Alqatami) P Walwyn 8-12 ... J Mercer 8
407 0410-0 DEPUTY HEAD (D) (P Callard) J Holt 8-10 ... P Waldron 1
409 01-0 DRY LAND (D) (Beckhampton Ltd) J Tree 8-3 ... Pat Eddery 7
410 3100-0 SEBAL (D) (M Suhail) G Hunter 7-13 ... A Clarke 3 2

2 Debaj, 3 Shanleys Style, 9-2 Shasta Sam, 6 Wiki Wiki Wheels, 7 Dry Land, 10 Chaplins Club, 12 others.

4.0 THATCHAM HANDICAP (£2,561: 2m) (10)

501 /40204- QUEEN'S HOME (T Waterman) F Winter 4-9-3 ... S Cauthen 2
502 12110-0 PRINCE OF PRINCES (D) (L Smith) J Dunlop 4-9-4 ... W Carson 5
503 100300- TELSMOSS (C) (C Papaloannou) P Mitchell 7-9-4 ... B Crossley 7
505 00020-3 POPSI'S JOY (D) (V Lawson) M Haynes 8-8-2 ... L Piggott 6
507 011190- THAHUL (B) (Sheikh Mohammed) R Houghton 6-8-10 ... J Reid 10
509 /00300- RA NOVA (J Brunning-Goggin) J Jenkins 4-8-5 ... – 4
510 /10100- RIGHT REGENT (D) (S Hindle) M Pipe 5-8-4 ... – 3
511 020100- SELFE (Mrs V Stevenson) R Hollinshead 4-7-13 ... Paul Eddery 3 8
512 100600- SHOOTING BUTTS (D) (T Hewitt) B McMahon 5-7-11 ... – 1
514 0000-11 WET BOB (D) (A Simpson) R Holder 5-7-7 (6 ex) ... S Dawson 5 9

5-2 Popsi's Joy, 4 Wet Bob, 9-2 Thahul, 6 Queen's Home, 15-2 Prince Of Princes, 10 Right Regent, 14 others.

4.30 STROUD GREEN HANDICAP (3-y-o: £3,032: 1m) (10)

601 0314- RING OF GREATNESS (D) (Dexam Int Ltd) J Dunlop 9-7 ... W Carson 3
602 14- MADELSTAN (C St George) H Cecil 9-3 ... L Piggott 1
603 341242- BLUSHING RIVER (Maktoum Al maktoum) Thomas Jones 9-1 ... P Cook 7
604 23030-3 HAWKLEY (D Rigby) K Brassey 8-13 ... B Crossley 10
606 021420- ARTIST'S REEL (S Niarchos) P Walwyn 8-11 ... J Mercer 8
608 421211- JALMOOD THE STONE (F Salman) P Cole 8-10 ... T Quinn 5 6
609 410220- GENERAL CONCORDE (D) (C Rogers) 8-0 ... A McGlone 5 2
612 0000- LACKBRIDGE (Lord Chetwode) G Balding 7-9 ... R Fox 4
613 0003- POLO BOY (Mrs A Herbage) G Balding 7-9 ... W Higgins 5
615 03000- SAGARMATHA (T Luciano) G Balding 7-7 ... A Gerran 7 9

2 Mandelstam, 3 Jalmood The Stone, 9-2 Rings Of Greatness, 11-2 Hawkley, 8 General Concorde, 12 Artists Reel, Blushing River, 14 others.

Newbury selections

By Michael Phillips
2.0 Count d'Arcy, 2.30 Firmanent, 3.0 Habibti, 3.30 Debaj, 4.0 Popsi's Joy, 4.30 Jalmood the Stone.
By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.30 Hot Touch, 3.0 Page Blanche, 3.30 Chaplin's Club, 4.30 Mandelstam.

Thirsk

Draw advantage: high numbers best

2.0 BRITON STAKES (2-y-o: £1,413: 5f) (15 runners)

3 321 MAGIC (D) W Wharton 9-1 ... G Duffield 15
5 BICKERSTAFFE M W Easterby 8-11 ... J Seagrave 2
6 03 CEDARWAY W O'Gorman 8-11 ... T Ives 14
9 0 MICHEAL RICE J Berry 8-11 ... K Darley 7
10 MONINSKY M H Easterby 8-11 ... M Birch 12
12 PORT ERROLL M W Easterby 8-11 ... J Murray 6
17 DAWN DANCER N Tinkler 8-8 ... L Charnock 11
18 2 DECCAN QUEEN E Eldin 8-8 ... C Dwyer 1
19 HAMBLETON LADY E Carr 8-8 ... A Mackay 3 4
20 003 LITTLE MISS HORNER G Harman 8-8 ... N Jackson 7 3
21 0 MISS JAY CEE J Parkes 8-8 ... S P Griffiths 7 8
22 MISS MO M W Easterby 8-8 ... M Wigham 5
23 NATINA-MAY T Fairhurst 8-8 ... R P Elliot 9
26 2 TRIM TAXI T Barron 8-8 ... S Webster 10

9-4 Magic, 7-2 Trim Taxi, 5 Monisky, 10 Cedarway, Miss Mo, 12 Deccan Queen, 20 others.

2.30 KNAYTON STAKES (selling: £1,103: 6f) (18)

1 0000- CAPTAIN HENRY M Lambert 4-9-13 ... A Charlton 7 3
2 1000- GOOD PERFORMER D Yeoman 4-9-13 ... S Keightley 7 18
3 0/30-2 JUMP JAR (D) D Chapman 4-9-13 ... D Nicholls 6
4 10-00 LAMBWATH FLYER A Smith 4-9-13 ... – 13
7 000-0 TYPECAST (D), (B) D Yeoman 4-9-13 ... – 2
8 4300- CARAN d'ACHE G Balding 4-9-7 ... J Matthias 17
9 00/0 IBOLYAN SOUND S Norton 4-9-7 ... C Ollivier 5 1
10 0/ JIMMY PERI C Gray 4-9-7 ... N Connorton 3 12
11 0300- TRISKELION J Howell 4-9-7 ... – 16
12 0000- ULTRASONIC D Chapman 4-9-7 ... G P Kelly 11
13 000-3 MRS BUZBY Miss S Hall 4-9-4 ... M Birch 10
14 304-0 NAUGHTY TWINKLE A Balding 4-9-4 ... J Balding 7
15 300/ WOOLAW Hbt Jones 4-9-4 ... M Wigham 15
16 040-0 CONVEYOR BELLE J Berrys 3-8-12 ... S Horsfall 7 14
17 0024- SONG TO SINGO J Etherington 3-8-12 ... J Seagrave 9
18 000-0 AUSPICIUM E Weymmes 3-8-6 ... S Webster 4
19 30-0 CHAMPAGNE MANDY R Hollinshead 3-8-6 ... W Ryan 7 5
22 00- THINKLUCKYBELUCKY J Howell 3-8-6 ... – 8

100-30 Jump Jar, 9-2 Song To Singo, 6 Mrs Buzby, 8 Champagne Mandy, 12 Conveyor Belle, Naughty Twinkle, 16 others.

3.0 BIRDFORTH HANDICAP (3-y-o: £2,611: 1m) (10)

1 000-0 BONNY SHIELDS K Stone 9-7 ... J Skilling 1
2 0103- WARGAME C Gray 9-7 ... N Connorton 3 10
3 1200- MELTHEMI M H Easterby 9-6 ... K Hodgson 3 4
7 4023- ISMORE W Guest 8-11 ... E Guest 5 9
10 0421- VIDEO MAN G Huffer 8-6 ... M Miller 5
13 0140- SEA REPPIN K Stone 8-0 ... L Charnock 7
144 2140- HOT POTATOE C Booth 8-0 ... P Tuck 2
16 01-2 BALLAD ISLAND (D) M Jarvis 7-7 ... W Ryan 7 8
17 00-0 SALIX J W Watts 7-7 ... R Hills 5 3
18 000- FIORENZO M Camacho 7-7 ... – 6

9-4 Ballad Island, 7-2 Melthemi, 6 Ismore, Video Man, 10 Wargame, 14 Sea Reppin, 20 others.

3.30 SOWERBY STAKES (3-y-o: £1,755: 1m 4f) (8)

1 111-2 HIGH CANNON S Norton 9-4 ... C Ollivier 5 7
3 014-0 MOON MARINER C Brittain 9-0 ... T Ives 1
8 2401 VYNZ GIRL C Booth 8-11 ... G Oldroyd 2
9 01- WHITSTAR M Jarvis 8-11 ... B Raymond 4
10 3000- ALAN STUART W Barrett 8-10 ... S Keightley 7 3
11 FOUR OF EACH N Bycroft 8-10 ... L Charnock 6
13 0 SPIGOT SHAFT J Hanson 8-10 ... E Johnson 8
15 KEROSA N Chamberlain 8-7 ... M Fry 5 5

7-4 High Cannon, 11-4 Whitestar, 5 Vynz Girl, 7 Moon Mariner, 12 others.

4.0 STRAITLACE STAKES (Div I maidens: £1,557: 1m) (11)

1 0300- ANGELA EDELSON W Guest 4-9-7 ... E Guest 5 9
3 404- COTTAGE STYLE W A Stephenson 4-9-7 ... G Skeats 8
4 0/300- DOROTHY BREWIS G Richards 4-8-7 ... O Gray 11
7 000/0- VACANI E Incisa 4-9-7 ... – 2
8 033-4 AMPERSAND I Balding 3-8-4 ... J H Brown 5 5
10 0-0 DINGLE BELLE W Wharton 3-8-4 ... G Duffield 3
16 00- HAUTE HAT S Norton 3-8-4 ... C Ollivier 5 4
18 300-3 HECKLEY HINNY G Balding 3-8-4 ... J Matthias 10
21 00- KELLY THORPE C Gray 3-8-4 ... N Connorton 3 6
24 0000- LADY DONARO J Berry 3-8-4 ... K Darley 1
27 2400- MISS TETO J Toller 3-8-4 ... N Day 7

2 Ampersand, 11-4 Miss Tito, 9-2 Heckley Hinny, 8 Haute Hat, 12 Cottage Style, 20 others.

4.30 HAMBLETON STAKES (3-y-o: £1,774: 5f) (11)

5 00-04 JIMMY RANE T Barron 9-0 ... S Webster 5
7 00-0 NARROW AND SHORT M H Easterby 9-0 ... M Birch 7
9 004-1 PETONG (D) M Jarvis 9-7 ... B Raymond 3
10 003- RED NORTH D Garraton 9-0 ... B Jago 10
12 00-0 SAULINGO LAD (B) R Stubbs 9-0 ... M Keogh 7 6
13 0300- SHARPISH B Hobbs 9-0 ... G Baxter 11
14 004-0 BAY EMMEANUELLE Mrs M Nesbitt 8-11 ... A Crook 4
16 0224- FOREVER MARY W O'Gorman 8-11 ... T Ives 2
17 0234- HARLEYFORD MAID Denys Smith 8-11 ... M Fry 5 9
20 0220- PAMELA'S JET R Hollinshead 8-11 ... N Carlisle 3 1
22 003- YASMEEN C Spares 8-11 ... E Johnson 8

15-8 Sharpish, 7-2 Forever Mary, 6 Petong, 8 Harleyford Maid, 12 Jimmy Raine, Red North, 20 others.

5.0 STRAITLACE STAKES (Div II maiden fillies: £1,577: 1m) (11)

2 403-2 BROCKLEY BELLE C Spares 4-9-7 ... E Johnson 11
6 0- MISS ST ANDREWS H Blackshaw 4-9-7 ... S Webster 4
9 0- DANCE CARD M Jarvis 3-8-4 ... B Raymond 7
12 0 DOUBLE MARTINI D Moriey 3-8-4 ... G Duffield 6
14 0000- FAST DANCER G Richards 3-8-4 ... M Wigham 3
17 44 HEAVENLY PRINCESS A Bailey 3-8-4 ... D McKeown 3 8
20 0- JUST RAIN P Asquith 3-8-4 ... K Darley 5
22 0- KEROINE N Chamberlain 3-8-4 ... M Fry 5 9
23 0- LA CONGA E Incisa 3-8-4 ... – 1
25 033- LEASE OF LIFE C Thornton 3-8-4 ... J Bleasdale 10
31 0004- SOVEREIGN LACE R Hollinshead 3-8-4 ... T Ives 2

2 Heavenly Princess, 3 Lease Of Life, 5 Brockley Belle, 10 Fast Dancer, 12 Sovereign Lace, 20 others.

Thirsk selections

(By Michael Seely)
2.0 Minisky, 2.30 Jump Jar, 3.0 Ballad Island specially recommended, 3.30 High Cannon, 4.0 Ampersand, 4.30 Forever Mary, 5.0 Dance Girl.

(By Our Newmarket Correspondent)
2.0 Deccan Queen, 3.0 Ballad Island, 3.30 Whitstar, 4.0 Angela Edelson, 4.30 Petong, 5.0 Brockley Belle.

Ayr NH

2.15 HAYHILL HURDLE (Novices: £1,110: 2m 6f) (18 runners)

1 0331 L O BROADWAY R Fisher 5-11-10 ... K Teelan 7
3 0fu1 FULL MEASURE D Moorhead 7-11-5 ... C Grant
4 3102 LOUVIERS (C) G Richards 5-11-5 ... N Doughty
6 4404 MIGHTY RUN W Stephenson 5-11-5 ... K Jones 7
7 0031 NIGHT ERRANT D MacDonald 7-11-5 ... D Goulding
10 201f SUPERWIZZ (B) J FitzGerald 6-11-5 ... M Dwyer
11 ADMIRAL HORNBLOWER W Crawford 5-11-0 ... J O'Neill
12 BLACK PERIL C Bell 5-11-0 ... A Stringer
14 30p2 COLONEL ROSE T Goldie 6-11-0 ... –
15 30 CONISTON COLD N Crump 5-11-0 ... C Hawkins
19 0300 DUSTY PATH W Bentley 5-11-0 ... D Wilkinson
22 0000 GILSTON HILL (B) G Dun 6-11-0 ... Mr J Dun 7
26 00 MR NASH T Dun 6-11-0 ... T Dun
28 000 ROYAL RUBY T Dun 7-11-0 ... A Brown
29 0432 SELBORNE RAMBLER C Bell 5-11-0 ... P Tuck
31 00/0 TAME LAD P Adams 8-11-0 ... Mr D Robertson
32 0400 TIERNA'S PET J Beck 6-11-0 ... Mr D Shaw
34 0000 WATCHKNOWE LAD W Young 5-11-0 ... D Nolan

11-4 Night Errant, 4 Superwizz, 5 Selborne Rambler, 13-2 L O Broadway, 8 Louviers, 10 Full Measure, 14 Colonel Rose, Coniston Cold, 20 others.

2.45 SEAFIELD CHASE (Novices: £1,662: 3m 110yd) (13)

1 4034 CHESTNUT PRINCE O Brennan 8-11-12 ... M Brennan
3 3402 ROSEWELL RIEVER P Monteith 10-11-12 ... D Nolan
6 3044 BLUEBERRY BUSH T Dun 8-11-7 ... T G Dun
7 0123 BURNT OAK D Nicholson 7-11-7 ... P Scudamore
9 p321 UNSCRUPULOUS JUDGE W Stephenson 6-11-7 ... K Jones 7
12 0240 DERRY ISLAND T Callagher (Ire) 7-11-2 ... –
13 0000 DICK READY D Moorhead 8-11-2 ... P Tuck
14 0/00- GOLD CAMP Ld Kilmany 7-11-2 ... G Holmes
15 3204 GREAT HEAD BOY R Fisher 6-11-2 ... J O'Neill
17 0p0f JONATHAN'S CHOICE D Robertson 9-11-2 ... Mr D Robertson
18 4f03 LUCKER CHIMES W Atkinson 11-11-2 ... B Storey 4
19 p00p/ MARMALITE Miss J Salkeld 8-11-2 ... –
21 004 LARA'S TEDDY G Richards 5-10-7 ... J Hansen 4

10-11 Burnt Oak, 5-2 Rosewell Riever, 11-2 Unscrupulous Judge, 10 Chestnut Prince, 16 Derry Island, 20 others.

3.15 SCOTTISH CHAMPION HURDLE (Handicap: £4,549: 2m) (6)

1 1101 EKBALCO (D) R Fisher 7-12-0 ... J O'Neill
2 1102 ROYAL VULCAN (D) N Callaghan 5-11-13 ... –
3 0-200 GAY GEORGE (CD) F Walwyn 7-11-9 ... W Smith
6 3142 NORTON CROSS (D) M H Easterby 5-10-7 ... A Brown
8 1011- BRIGHT OASIS (B) (D) K Bailey 7-10-7 ... M Perrett
13 0011 KASLAND (D) Miss Bower 6-10-7 ... H Davies

8-11 Ekbalco, 7-2 Royal Vulcan, 8 Gay George, 10 Norton Cross, 16 Bright Oasis, 25 Kasland.

3.45 GEORGE GRAHAM CHASE (Handicap: £2,473: 3m 110yd) (8)

1 1-010 BLUE REEF (CD) W Stephenson 8-11-10 ... P Scudamore
4 b0p0 THE ENGINEER (CD) Ld Kilmany 11-11-3 ... G Holmes
5 003f ROYAL MINSTREL (CD) D Moorhead 8-11-3 ... P Tuck
6 3111 PROMINENT KING (D) M H Easterby 11-11-2 (6 ex) ... Mr T Easterby
7 4221 CHANCE COMMAND (B) P Calver 8-11-0 ... C Grant
10 00-0p THE FENCER W Stephenson 11-10-10 ... A Stringer
11 4001 LORD PROVOST (B) (C) Miss H Hamilton 9-10-7 ... J O'Neill
12 2p1p OWENBURN K Oliver 8-10-0 ... D Dutton

2 Prominent King, 4 Chance Command, 5 Royal Minstrel, 10 Blue Reef, Lord Provost, 16 others.

4.15 KYLES OF BUTE HURDLE (Handicap: £1,375: 2m) (18)

1 3001 ADIRONDACK (CD) G Lockerbie 8-12-2 ... G McEnhill 7
2 0420 PALANATE (D) D Nicholson 5-11-7 ... P Scudamore
3 0010 FURRETTE Miss Bower 5-11-3 ... H Davies
5 3b14 SAMORSUMTHING (CD) D Thomson 8-11-1 ... R Barry
6 2204 BEAMWAM (D) C Bell 5-11-0 ... P Tuck
8 0020 MR SUNBIRD (D) R Allan 5-10-11 ... T G Dun
9 0000 KENBALLY (D) J S Wilson 7-10-11 ... C Grant
10 021 PARKDALE (D) J FitzGerald 5-10-10 ... R O'Leary
11 p001 CLOUDWALKER (B) (CD) M Lambert 6-10-9 ... P A Charlton
12 1223 COGRA MOSS (D) D McDonald 9-10-8 ... D Goulding
13 4404 GALCATCH (CD) W Wells 6-10-7 ... J O'Neill
14 402f VITA VERITAS L Woods (Ire) 6-10-4 ... –
15 p000 WINTERTIME (D) G Richards 6-10-3 ... N Doughty
16 0000 ALL EXPENSE C Bell 5-10-0 ... A Stringer
18 0001 KINGSBERE (D) M Cousins 7-10-0 (4 ex) ... J Hansen 4
20 0200 FERNEZ (D) H McConnell 8-10-0 ... Mrs A Roberton
22 0/000 ABERCATA (D) Miss J Salkeld 11-10-0 ... K Jones 7
23 0001 FEU ROUGE T Callagher (Ire) 4-10-0 ... –

7-2 Beamwam, 9-2 Cloudwalker, 6 Cogra Moss, 13-2 Palatinate, 8 Vita Veritas, Adirondack, 12 Parkdale, 14 Samorsumthing, 16 Galatch, Kingsbere, 20 others.

4.45 ADAMHILL HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £823: 3m 110yd) (7)

1 1-f1f SEALED Mrs M Stirk 8-12-5 ... T Walford 7
4 400/u CAHEROYAN (CD) W Stephenson 9-12-0 ... –
5 12-f DAL HARRAILD J Haldane 10-12-0 ... L Hudson 7
6 1-f02 GAYLE WARNING J Dudgeon 9-12-0 ... A Dudgeon 7
7 44-40 GENERAL BRUNO (CD) P Gibbon 13-12-0 ... D Metcalfe 7
11 /12-2 QUEENSBERRY LAD (CD) W Macmillan 11-12-0 ... G Macmillan
12 4f-00 SOLAR BEE W Reed 8-12-0 ... T Reed 7

13-8 Queensberry Lad, 11-4 Gayle Warning, 9-2 Sealed, 6 Dal Harraild, 12 Caheroyan, 14 General Bruno, Solar Bee.

Ayr selections

By Our Racing Staff
2.15 Night Errant. 2.45 Unscrupulous Judge. 3.15 Gay George. 3.45 Prominent King. 4.15 Parkdale. 4.45 Sealed.

Newmarket results

Going: good.

2.0 (2.2) GRANBY STAKES (2-y-o: £2,443: 5f)
AFRICAN ABANDON b f by African Sky–Saintly Angel (P Mills) 9-1 ... G Baxter (11-8 fav) 1
Camden Lad ... S Perks (12-1) 2
Glitter Brook ... P Eddery (16-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £2.20. Places: £1.20, £2.20, £2.30. DF: £10.30. CSF: £15.91. C Brittain at Newmarket. 1l, 8l. Hopwood (6-1) 4th. 9 ran. 1m4.55s.

2.23 (2.39) DAILY MIRROR APPRENTICE CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND 2 (handicap: £2,511: 1m 4f)
PERCASE b g by Tachypous–Pertinacity (Lady Dunphie) 4-8-7 ... J H Brown (7-2) 1
... D Price (20-1) 2
Bold Print ... W Ryan (100-30 Fav) 3
Regal Steel.
TOTE: Win: £3.50. Places: £1.40, £3.00, £1.20. DF: £42.90. CSF: £56.08. I Balding at Kingsclere. 1½l, 10l. Suppers Ready (25-1) 4th. 12 ran. 2m40.80s.

3.10 (3.13) NELL GWYN STAKES (group 3: 3-y-o: fillies: £11,609: 7f)
FAVORIDGE b f by Riva Ridge–Favoletta (E Moller) 8-7 ... P Eddery (13-8 Fav) 1
Annie Ridge ... J Reid (14-1) 2
Royal Heroine ... W R Swinburn (3-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £2.60. Places: £1.30, £2.20, £1.70. DF: £17.70. CSF: £20.52. G Wragg at Newmarket. 1½l, hd. Whet Lake (16-1) 4th. 9 ran. 1m30.15s.

3.40 (3.41) LADBROKES BOLDBOY SPRINT HANDICAP (3-y-o: £3,665: 6f)
SOLIMILE b f, by Solinus–Mile By Mile– (L Norris) 9 1 bl ... E Hide (9-2) 1
Northair ... J Mercer (7-2) 2
Groszewald ... W Carson (3-1 J Fv) 3
TOTE: Win: £3.90. Places: £2.30, £2.30. DF: £12.40. CSF: £19.09. P Kelleway at Newmarket. 6l, 2½l. Willy James 3-1 Jt Fav. Dual Investment (14-1) 4th. 6 ran. 1m 17.2s.

4.10 (4.11) GERRY FIELDEN STAKES (3-y-o: £6,078: 1m 1f)
ZOFFANY b c, by Our Native–Grey Dawn Girl– (A Speelman) 9 4 ... G Starkey (Evens fav) 1
Onslow ... W Carson (12-1) 2
Hungarian Prince ... P Eddery (25-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £1.90. Places: £1.30, £2.10, £2.20. DF: £8.80. CSF: £11.71. G Harwood at Pulborough. Nk, 2½. Serhead (9-1) 4th. 6 ran. 1m 59.47s.

4.40 (4.48) ROWLEY STAKES (3-y-o: maidens: £2,931: 7f)
SCHUSS b c by High Top–Christian– (Lord Porchester) 9-0 ... W Carson (7-2) 1
Welsh Glory ... L Piggott (7-1) 2
Speed of Music ... T Quinn (16-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £5.40. Places: £2.10, £2.10, £4.50. DF: £14.60. CSF: £28.24. W Hern at West Ilsley. 4l, nk. Gay Lemur (9-4 fav) 4th. 1m 30.97s. NR: Roynis Boy, Gallium.

TOTE DOUBLE: Favoridge, Zoffany £4.15. TREBLE: Percase, Solimile & Schuss £19.25. JACKPOT: £145.10. PLACEPOT: £11.20.

Wincanton

2.15 1, Le Vert Galant (11-1); 2, Usurping (5-1); 3, Redenham (14-1). Hymnos (3-1 fav). 23 ran.
2.45 1, Saunders (13-2); 2, Black Rod (13-2); 3, Money For Jam (8-1). Almighty Zeus (4-1 fav). 13 ran. nr. Polly's Owen.
3.15 1, Western Sunset (6-4 fav); 2, Leander Blue (13-2); 3, Scottish Sound (13-2). 13 ran.
3.45 1, Fame The Spur (25-1); 2, Party Miss (11-1; 3, Celtic Slave (11-1). (4-1 jt favs) Brooks Law and Nine Stones. 15 ran.
4.15 1, Nampara Cove (6-2); 2, Button Boy (5-1); 3, Professor Plum (9-4 fav). 8 ran.
4.45 1, Nugent (2-1 fav); 2, Rhinestone Cowboy (11-2); 3, Levanta Lee (50-1). 22 ran.

Worcester

2.30: 1, Ever-So-Sure (25-1); 2, Magic Formula (16-1); 3, Paperacer (4-1). 16 Ran. (Roman Son 7-4 Fav). Nr. Solar Krib, Sporting Cash & Statist.
3.00: 1, Space Bridge (12-1); 2, Poor Excuse (33-1); 3, Double Crossing (13-2). 10 ran.
3.30: 1, Rhainford (10-1); 2, Rocks of Bawn (10-1); 3, Rodney Parade (8-1).
4.00: Kentigern (11-2); 2, Gemmarley Jane (13-2); 3, Rugy (10-1). 20 Ran.
4.30: 1, Master Nibble (5-1). 2, Cottage Thythm (5-1); 3, Highway Sang (16-1). 18 Ran. Below The Salt (3-1 Fav). Nr. Ballybuder.
5.00: 1, Something Special (6-4 Fav); 2, Jymario (13-2); 3, Heavy Kate (16-1). 9 Ran. Nr. Exclusive Fox.

Point-to-point

HEYTHROP (Tuesday) Hunt, Double Negative; Ladies Open, Starsky; Men's Open, Nostradumus; Adjacent Hunt, Forbidden Fruit; Old Etonian, Britway Maiden (I) Jayboy; Maiden (II) Fruit Phase.

BUCCLEUCH AND JEDFOREST (Wednesday): Adj. Flying Ace; Restricted, Timfi; Ladies Open, Foolish Raro; Men's Open, Sporting Luck; Maiden, Water Crescent Hunt, Owen View.

STATE OF GOING: Newbury: soft. Thirsk: good to soft. Ayr: good. Tomorrow. Bangor: good to soft. Stratford: good to soft, chase: good, hurdle. Huntingdon: soft.

IN BRIEF



Sheene in 21 races

Barry Sheene, who makes his British motor-cycling comeback at Donington Park on Sunday, will race at 21 meetings this season in a sponsorship deal with the British importers of DAF Trucks from the Netherlands.

The former world 500cc champion spent six months regaining fitness after a bad smash and proved wrong the doctors who predicted that he would never race again by competing in the French and South African Grands Prix.

TABLE TENNIS: Thirteen countries will compete in the seventh Commonwealth championships, starting in Kuala Lumpur on Sunday. England's men are in the same qualifying group as Hongkong, who finished third last year. The Nigerians, who were runners-up to England, are drawn with Canada and India.

MEN: Group A: England, Hongkong, India, Australia, Scotland, New Zealand and Northern Ireland. Group B: Nigeria, Canada, Pakistan, Wales, Malaysia and Singapore.
WOMEN: Group A: England, Canada, Nigeria, New Zealand, Singapore and Northern Ireland. Group B: Hongkong, India, Scotland, Australia and Malaysia.

BOXING: Mike Rossman, the former World Boxing Association light-heavyweight champion, returning to the ring for the first time in two years, stopped a fellow American, Charlie Smith, in the tenth round at Atlantic City.

GOLF: The first round of the Korean Open championship was cancelled because of heavy rain in Seoul yesterday. It will now be decided over three rounds

CYCLING: Bernard Hinault, of France, claimed his first classic victory since 1981 when he beat five rivals in a sprint to the finish in the forty-seventh Fleche Wallonne race at Huy in Belgium.

TENNIS

Bone backs rising Brice to trouble Whichello

By Lewine Mair

Austen Brice, the youngest survivor among the boys in the 16-and-under Junior Hardcourt Championship sponsored by Prudential at the Edgbaston Archery Club, has improved to an extent where, if at his best, he could give the first-seeded Richard Whichello a touch of trouble in ther semi-final match this morning.

In the opinion of Derek Bone, the Lawn Tennis Association's National Junior Coordinator, Brice has recently made up a deal or ground on both Whichello and the second-seeded Jason Goodall.

"A year ago," said Bone, "he was just a moderate player in the 14-and-under age group. Now, though one has to remember that this applies only in a British context, he is up with the better 16-and-under players and is by no means lost in the 18-and-under game."

Bone puts down Brice's advance to his move to St Bede's school in Eastbourne, where he is able to play so much more tennis, most of it under the eye of Clay Iles.

A well-coordinated boy who does plenty in the way of training to build himself up, Brice was at once stronger and more reliable than Yorkshire's Stepehn Heron in their match yesterday morning. Heron picked up just three games in each set, but what made the watching John Clifton of Davis Cup fame feel double sorry for the lad was the fact that he received a formal warning for querying a couple of calls about which he was each time patently in the right.

Whichello, in his quarter-final match, won 6-4, 6-2 against Millfield's Mark Wallace. Six games represented a respectable haul for Wallace, a young man who has spent enough time on his schoolwork to be contemplating a career in medicine.

Ricky Every of Nottinghamshire survived a tough three-set affair to meet Goodall in the other semi-final while, in the girls event, Scotland's Suzie Mair will play Kent's Jenny Reeves and Caroline Rhaguandas, once the 12-and-under grass court champion, meets Linclonshire's Alison Grant. Miss Grant's victim yesterday was Alison Reichenbach, a Leicestershire girl who looks to have a good strong game in the making.

PRUDENTIAL HARD COURT CHAMPIONSHIPS: 16-and-under: Boys' singles: R Whichello (Kent) beat M Wallace (Avon) 6-4 6-2; A Brice (Cheshire) beat S Heron (Yorkshire) 6-3 6-3; R Every (Notts) beat C Peet (Lancashire) 3-6 6-3 6-2; J Goodall (Yorkshire) beat A Hunting (Leistershire) 4-6 6-4 6-1. Girls singles: S Mair (East of Scotland) beat C Wood (Sussex) 7-5 6-1; J Reeves (Kent) beat F Couldridge (Dorset) 6-2 2-4; C Bhaguandas (Middlesex) beat S Whiteman (Notts) 6-4 6-2; A Grant (Lincolnshire) beat A Reichenbach (Leicestershire) 6-3 6-3.

Miss Jaeger out

Amelia Island, Florida (AP) – A knee injury has forced Andrea Jaeger, the second seed to withdraw from the £250,000 WTA Championship here.

She strained the knee in last week's Family Circle Cup at Hilton Head, South Carolina. Miss Jaeger was to have met qualifier Rafaella Reggi of Italy,

LOS ANGELES: Pacific Southwest Championships: Second round: (US unless stated): Connors bt E Fromm 6-3, 6-0; F Buehning bt E Teltscher 6-4, 6-4; J Kriek (SA) bt P Dupre (US) 4-6, 6-4, 6-1; R Van't Hof B Waits 7-6, 2-6, 6-3. Third round: B Gottfried bt C Hopper 6-7, 6-3, 6-3; T Mayotte bt M Purcell 2-6, 6-2, 7-6.
HILTON HEAD ISLAND, South Carolina: WCT tournament: Quarter-final: T Smid (CZ) bt W Scanlon (US) 6-2, 6-1, 3-6, 6-4.
AMELEA ISLAND, Florida: WTA tournament: Second round (US unless stated): B Gadusek bt I Budarova (CZ), 6-1, 6-2; P Casale bt A Moulton, 3-6, 6-2, 6-3; S Hanika (WG) bt A Leand, 6-2, 4-6, 7-5; W White bt C Benjamin, 6-4, 6-2; M Torres bt Y Vermaak (SA), 4-6, 7-5, 6-1; Z Garrison bt I Madruga-Osses (Arg), 4-6, 7-5, 6-2; E Pfaff (WG) bt D Hee Lee (Kor), 7-6, 6-2; S Barker (Eng) bt A Holton, 6-0, 1-6, 6-3; E Head bt M Maleeva (Bul), 6-3,6-3; R Reggi (It) bt L Forood, 6-3, 6-2; C Lloyd bt M L Piatek, 6-1, 6-0.
WCT STANDINGS: 1, I Lendl (Cz) average 56.25; 2, J McEnroe (US) 55.35; 3, G Vilas (Arg) 43.22; 4, J Connors (US) 38.86; 5, M Wilander (Swe) 34.59; 6, K Curren (SA) 31.12; 7, G Mayer (US) 30.24; 8, Y Noah (Fr) 28.52; 9, W Scanlon (US) 27.54; 10, V Gerulaitis (US) 26.14.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
Fourth division
Colchester United v Scunthorpe United
Crewe Alexandra v Hartlepool United
Halifax Town v York City
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: West Bromwich v Liverpool (7.0)
OTHER MATCH: Walthamstow Avenue v Tottenham Hotspur XI

RUGBY LEAGUE

FIRST DIVISION: Carlisle v Bradford Northern (at Huddersfield); Warrington v Workington (8.0)

OTHER SPORT

GOLF: Father and Son Foursomes Tournament (at West Hill)
RACKETS: Open Singles (at Queen's Club)
SQUASH RACKETS: SRPA Championships (at Lambswath Hall, Hull)

Law Report April 15 1983

Compensation for land taxable

Davenport (Inspector of Taxes) v Chilver

Before Mr Justice Nourse

[Judgment delivered April 14]

Section 22 of the Finance Act 1965 brought into the charge to capital gains tax capital sums paid under the Foreign Compensation (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) Order (SI 1969 No 735) to a taxpayer as compensation for property in Latvia that had been confiscated from her and her family in 1940.

Mr Justice Nourse allowed in principle an appeal in the Chancery Division by the Crown from a determination of the Special Commissioners who had discharged an assessment to the tax that had been made on Miss Marie Chilver for the years 1972-73 in an amount of £10,000.

Although his Lordship made an order remitting the case to the commissioners for valuation of the gains, if any, he went on to express the opinion that he thought that the Crown should proceed on the practical footing that in relation to the greater part of the compensation neither a gain nor a loss accrued to the taxpayer in respect of the value of her rights during the relevant period.

Mr Robert Carnwath for the Crown; Mr Peter Whiteman, QC and Mr B R Green for the taxpayer.

MR JUSTICE NOURSE, delivering a reserved judgment, said that the question for decision was whether payments totalling £25,683 made to the taxpayer under the Foreign Compensation (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) Order 1969 were subject to capital gains tax. The relevant provisions of the Finance Act 1965 had once again given rise to several points of difficulty.

The taxpayer's father was a British national who in 1915 had married Irma Jurgenson. They had two children who were born in the United Kingdom in 1918 and 1920. One child was the taxpayer. All four members of the family owned property in Latvia.

In 1939 Mr Chilver died intestate. According to the then Latvian law his estate passed to his widow and daughters in equal shares.

In 1940 all private property in the Baltic States was expropriated without payment of compensation. That included the Chilver property the bulk of which was then owned by Mrs Chilver.

Mrs Chilver died in 1966 domiciled in England and Wales leaving any compensation due to her by reason of her Latvian property to her two daughters in equal shares.

In 1967 an agreement was reached between the United Kingdom government and the USSR concerning long standing disputes relating not only to the Baltic States but to various territories ceded to the USSR by Czechoslovakia, Finland, Poland and Romania between 1940 and 1951. Money was to be paid to the Foreign Compensation Commission so that payments could be made to applicants establishing a claim under the Order.

The taxpayer and her sister made claims on behalf of the estates of their parents and in their own right. The taxpayer established claims of £60,332 in respect of which she received 42 per cent or £25,683.

The Crown's claim to the tax depended on sections 19, 22 and 45(5) of the 1965 Act. Section 22 dealt with the disposals of assets and computation of gains. Subsection (1) provided that all forms of property should be assets for the purposes of the legislation.

By section 22(3) there was to be a disposal of assets by their owner where any capital sum was derived from assets notwithstanding that no asset was acquired by the person paying the capital sum and the subsection was to apply particularly to "(a) capital sums received by way of compensation for any kind of damage or injury to assets or for the loss, destruction or dissipation of assets".

In order to see the impact of the legislation it was necessary to examine the taxpayer's various interest in the property. She had to be taken to have been the owner of Latvian property not only in her own right but also via her father's estate pre-1940.

Second, she was never the owner of Latvian property via her mother's estate: by 1966 Mrs Chilver had no Latvian property to leave to her. Section 22(3) applied only to capital sums derived from assets owned by the person treated as disposing of them.

If that be right the subsection could not apply in the case of Mrs Chilver's Latvian property. Nor had the taxpayer acquired on her mother's death an asset within section 22(1): she had acquired a half share in any compensation due to her mother.

On the making of the Order in 1969 the taxpayer acquired no more than a hope of one day receiving compensation. That was not a form of property and not an asset for the purposes of the 1965 Act.

Thus there was no question of any charge to the tax on the compensation paid to the taxpayer in respect of her mother's property, unless the right conferred on her by the 1969 Order was itself an asset within section 22(1).

The commissioners had been correct in concluding that the compensation moneys paid to the taxpayer were not capital sums "derived from assets" within the general words of section 22(3).

But the Crown's primary argument was that the various categories of Latvian property were assets with section 22 and that the compensation moneys paid to the taxpayer were "capital sums received by way of compensation" for the loss of those assets within section 22(3)(a). Thus, Mr Carnwath argued, it was unnecessary to consider whether they were capital sums derived from assets within the general wording of the subsection.

That argument raised difficult questions but in the end it was clear that it was correct. Section 22(3)(a) was of wide effect: it was not limited to compensation payable as a result of some physical loss or damage.

It was concerned also with compensation payable as a result of a change of title to property. It was a fair use of language to describe nationalization, more especially confiscation, as the loss of an asset.

Accordingly there were disposals under section 22(3)(a) in relation to the small parts of compensation relating to the taxpayer's property and her father's. But the view already expressed in regard to the larger part paid in respect of the taxpayer's mother's property made it necessary to consider the Crown's alternative claim that the 1969 Order conferred a right on the taxpayer that was itself a form of property and therefore an asset within section 22(1).

Mr Whiteman had sought to negative that claim by relying on *Davis v Powell* ([1977] 1 WLR 258) as authority for the general propostion that a statutory right to compensation for irretrievable loss could not be an asset for the purposes of the tax.

However, that submission was unacceptable. *Davis v Powell* was distinguishable. The 1969 Order conferred on the taxpayer a form of property that was an asset. The Crown's alternative claim had been made out.

Whether that claim was worth anything in practice was another matter. For the result was that in the absence of agreement between the parties it would be necessary for the matter to be remitted to the commissioners for issues relating to the computation of any gains to be determined.

Mr Whiteman had argued against remittal on the grounds of delay and hardship to the taxpayer. But there was no alternative other than to remit the case. However, it did seem that some practical view ought to be taken on the compensation relating to the taxpayer's mother's property.

Whether by concession or otherwise it did appear that the fair and proper course would be for the Crown to proceed on the footing that there had been neither a gain nor a loss in the value of the taxpayer's rights during the material period. But those remarks were not intended to apply to the smaller amounts of compensation.

Although the Crown's appeal had to be allowed, it was clear that the substantial victory was or ought still to be the taxpayer's.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Vizard & Co, Monmouth.

Workless day limits

Cartwright v G. Clancey Ltd

Before Mr Justice Browne-Wilkinson, Mr R. V. Cooper and Mr D. A. Lambert

[Judgment delivered April 12]

In a test case on the interaction between an employee's entitlement to a guarantee payment and payments made to him under his contract of employment in periods of short time working, the Employment Appeal Tribunal held that a man who was entitled to a guarantee payment for five workless days in a specific period and who was paid by his employer under his contract of employment for those days could not then claim a guarantee payment for further workless days in the same period.

The appeal tribunal dismissed an appeal by Mr S. Cartwright from a decision of a Birmingham industrial tribunal last October who dismissed his application for a guarantee payment from his employers, G. Clancey Ltd.

Mrs T. Gill, legal officer General and Municipal Workers' Union, for Mr Cartwright; Mr J. Mitting for the company.

MR JUSTICE BROWNE-WIL- KINSON said that the employers had put part of the work force on short-time working rather than make them redundant.

Section 12 of the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978 provided for a guarantee payment for a "workless day".

Section 15 put limits on the amount of the payment and provided that an employee should not be entitled to guarantee payments in respect of more than five days in any three months.

In the present case there were nine "workless days" in the relevant three-month period. The employee was paid by his employers for five of those in excess of the statutory guarantee amount.

It was argued by Mrs Gill that the five days were not to be taken into account when calculating the maximum number of days for which a guarantee payment could be made under section 15.

She relied on the wording of section 16(2) that contractual remuneration paid to an employee in respect of a workless day went towards discharging an employer's liability to pay a guarantee payment "in respect of that day".

She contended that the payment of five days contractual remuneration only discharged liability for the guarantee payment for the five days and did not affect the remaining workless days.

That was wrong. The maximum of five days' entitlement to guarantee payment had been discharged by the contractual payment.

Solicitors: Ryland, Martineau and Co, Birmingham.

Commercial property Baron Phillips

Will a new rent level be set in the City?

A fierce battle is breaking out between the Prudential and the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation over the key rent review of 99 Bishopsgate, in the heart of the City. The building made property news last summer when Kuwaiti bank paid £32.12 a sq ft for 10,000 sq ft of accommodation setting a record rent level.

So far neither side can agree on a new leasehold rent for the block and it now looks set to go to arbitration in a few weeks' time. It is thought to be an extremely complicated deal because one would not normally expect a rent review between the long leaseholder, the bank, and the freeholder, the Prudential.

Hongkong & Shanghai bought the long leasehold interest in the 300,000 sq ft building in a spectacular deal about seven years ago when the property market was at its most depressed. The bank paid just over £30m for 99 Bishopsgate, about half of which it was to use for its own occupation.

Today the bank only occupies about 90,000 sq ft of the building which was developed originally by the Berkeley Hambro subsidiary Bishopsgate Developments in conjunction with the Prudential. The remaining office space has been let to a number of different tenants including the Kuwaiti bank which was prepared to pay a record rent to lease a floor in this well located block.

Negotiations between Hongkong & Shanghai and the Prudential are further complicated by a number of rent reviews underway between the bank and some undertenants. These tenants are resisting increases of around 50 per cent in their rent bill. Currently the occupiers whose leases are under review are paying between £18 and £22 a sq ft and the bank is keen to increase these rates to the present market level somewhere in excess of £32 a sq ft.

A spokesman for Richard Ellis, the agents acting for the Prudential, refused to be drawn into disclosing details of the lease structure between the bank and the insurance company. But there was more than a hint of a bitter battle between the two sides.

The property market is eagerly awaiting the outcome of all those negotiations, especially those with the undertenants, to see if a new rental level is established in the City. While one might expect some sort of discount for a sitting tenant this may not prove to be the case at 99 Bishopsgate. As one City agent put it this week: "You might expect to see some of the tenants paying a premium for the higher floors in the building. It would be unwise to talk about discounts on the market rent for that building."

Already it is believed the present record of £32.12 a sq ft is set to be broken with negotiations well underway at Atlas House, Cheapside, where Mitsubishi are believed to be close to signing a rental areement. Demand for prime City office space is presently outstripping supply and this is likely to be reflected in rents over the coming months. As the City of London Corporation disclosed in its office report last week, many agents believe that prime central banking core office space should command double the rent of more fringe buildings. This would push rents up to the £45 a sq ft level so often forecasted by Richard Ellis.

● The first letting has been achieved in Princess House, Bush Lane, EC4, just off Cannon Street. According to the letting agents Sinclair Goldsmith and Styles & Whitlock, an American financial institution, E F Hutton & Co has leased the top five floors in the Thames Tower section of the building for a rent of around £23.50 a sq ft.

This must come as some relief to the developers, W A Blackburn, who paid around £18m for the 87,000 sq ft building 18 months ago. Since then the company has spent about £7m refurbishing the former Midland Bank premises.

At the time it looked as though the developers would have a hard time finding tenants for the block which is decidedly off-pitch. News of this 20,000 sq ft letting must bring some cheer not only to the developers but to other landlords of buildings in less than prime locations.

● Debenham Tewson & Chinnocks has extended its office floorspace survey to include the West End as well as the EC and WC postal districts the firm has covered since 12974. The enlarged survey shows that in March there was a total of almost 9m sq ft of vacant office accommodation throughout the City the WC, W1 and SW1 districts of London.

The report shows that during the past six months there has been a 15 per cent increase in the amount of empty space in the West End market bringing the current total to 4.22m sq ft. Only one area of the capital's central office market witnessed demand greater than supply. In EC2 almost 140,000 sq ft was let during March while only 120,000 sq ft of space became newly available.

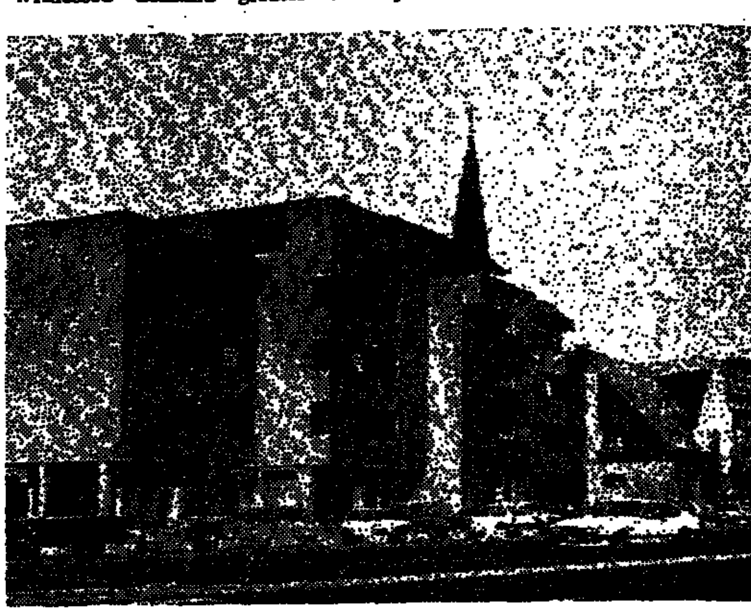
● British Telecom has leased 81,000 sq ft of office space in the £20m 145,000 sq ft Project 125 building on Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2. BT is to use the building as its new London Region Centre Area headquarters. The block has been developed by Town & City Properties together with National Freehold and Leasehold Properties and Norwich Union. Letting agents are Moss & Partners and Healey & Baker. The letting to BT follows hard on the heels of another leasing. Foster Wheeler Petroleum Developments has taken 21,000 sq ft.

● Arbuthnot Latham has leased 130 Finsbury Pavement, London EC2, at an annual rent of £580,000 for the 39,000 sq ft building. Joint letting agents were Jones Lang Wootton and Hampton & Sons.

● Land Securities, through its subsidiary, the City of London Real Property Company, has sold its freehold interest in 2-6 Austin Friars, EC2 to the Trustee Savings Bank Pension Scheme for around £12m. Let to the firm of jobbers Akroyd & Smithers at a rent of £625,000 a year, the building was refurbished in 1977 and has been in Land Securities' portfolio for 70 years.

Antwerp deal

The Belgian insurance company Abeille Paix has paid £1.75m for a 3,200 sq metre (about 35,000 sq ft) freehold office building located on Antwerp's inner road. Known as Berchense Poort, the non-air conditioned office building was completed at the end of 1981 and is about 45 per cent let. The insurance company was advised by Jones Lang Wootton and Ketteridge & Partners acted for the vendors.



هكذا من الاصل

Car Buyer's Guide

Motoring by Clifford Webb

Fiat promises a brighter future with new models

Fiat has taken a battering in the UK recently, with its market share falling from more than 5 per cent to 3 per cent last year. Its model range was in urgent need of new blood and its dealers were becoming disillusioned.

Now, under a new managing director, Fiat UK is beginning to bubble again, new models are arriving and dealer desertions have almost stopped.

There are still problems to be sorted out, however. Not least is the position of dealers holding dual Fiat-Lancia franchises after the sale of the Lancia concession to the Heron corporation. Signor Pietro Quaglia, who took over Fiat UK six months ago, admits it is awkward but believes that the two can be sold side by side if dealers are prepared to perform equally well for both.

The deciding factor, in my view, must be Lancia's image as an up-market car. I fear it has suffered in this country as much from being part of Fiat as from its former problems with rust. Fiat had its own rust nightmare but somehow never suffered from the same extensive media exposure as Lancia.

I am certain this was due to Lancia's much higher standing with British motorists. The shock was that much greater when things went wrong.

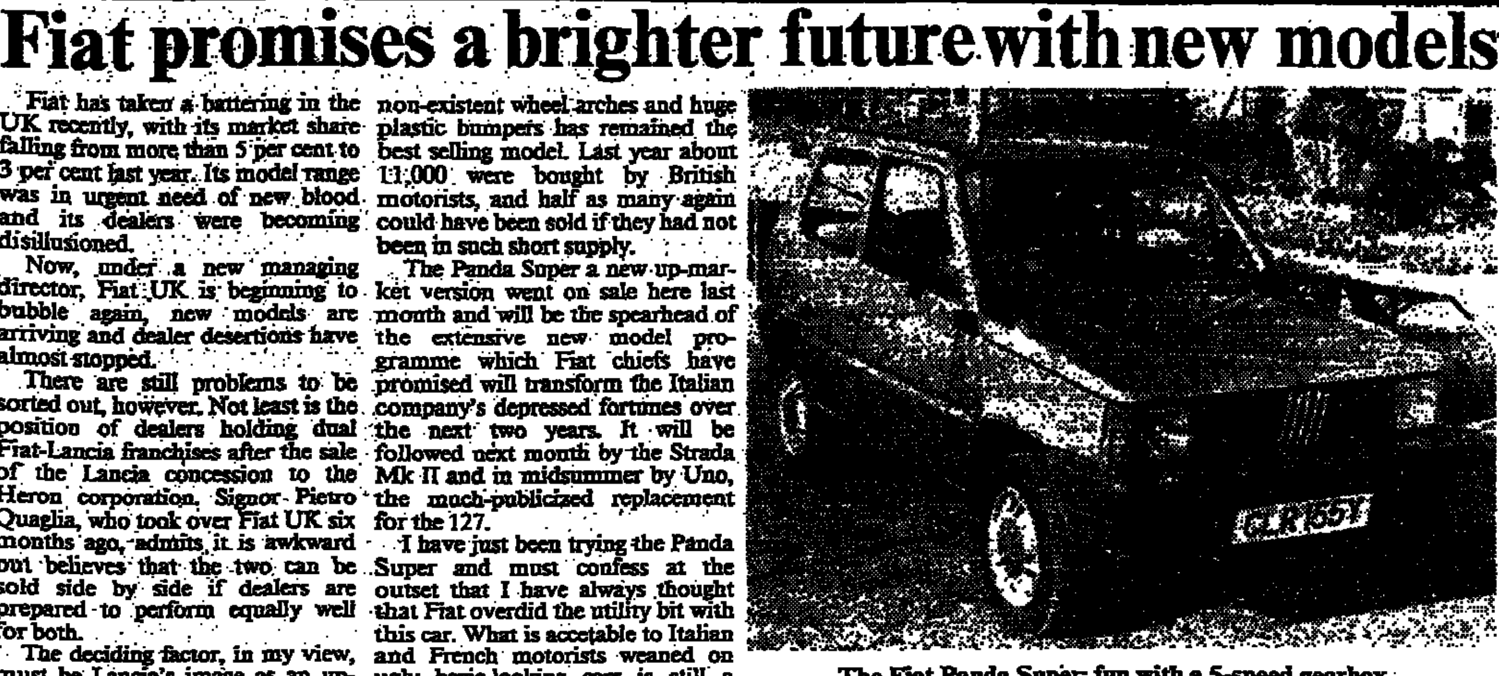
Throughout Fiat's recent lean period the very utility-looking 900cc Panda with its slab sides, non-existent wheel arches and huge plastic bumpers has remained the best selling model. Last year about 11,000 were bought by British motorists, and half as many again could have been sold if they had not been in such short supply.

The Panda Super a new up-market version went on sale here last month and will be the spearhead of the extensive new model programme which Fiat chiefs have promised will transform the Italian company's depressed fortunes over the next two years. It will be followed next month by the Strada Mk II and in midsummer by Uno, the much-publicized replacement for the 127.

I have just been trying the Panda Super and must confess at the outset that I have always thought that Fiat overdid the utility bit with this car. What is accetable to Italian and French motorists weaned on ugly basic-looking cars is still a questionable selling point here. But once past the shape and into the driving seat, doubts disappear.

Panda's upright seats give a commanding driving position. My wife was particularly fulsome in her praise of the all-round visibility and control this made possible.

The 900cc engine is typically Italian in its love of high revs. Allied for the first time to a five-speed gearbox, it cries out to be driven with frequent gear changes and lots of verve. With the minimum of imagination you can slip into the roll of a contestant in the Turin Grand Prix, the no-quarter-given battle conducted by small car drivers around the streets of Fiat's home town.


The Fiat Panda Super: fun with a 5-speed gearbox

The five-speed box gives the Super an edge over BL's Metro and Ford's Fiesta which are hardly relaxing when driven at high speed for any length of time. With another five-speed contender expected from the Continent shortly it is bound to speed up the introduction of a similarly-geared Metro now that such a box is already being bought from VW for the Maestro.

I was not so happy about the Panda's brakes. They were very spongy and not a patch of the Metro's. Another shortcoming was the water which accumulated in the driver's footwell during recent heavy rain, pointing to a poorly welded seam in the floor pan.

But this Panda costs nearly £200 less than the cheapest Fiesta and Metro models.

Vital statistics

Model: Fiat Panda Super
Price: £3,190
Engine: 903cc **Performance:** Maximum speed 87 mph, 0-60 mph 18.5 seconds
Official consumption: Urban, 40.4 mpg; 56 mph, 58.9 mpg; and 75 mph, 42.2 mpg.
Length: 11.1 feet
Insurance: Group three

Land Cruiser

Most Western countries think Japanese motor manufacturers have sheltered behind a grossly undervalued yen for too long. It has made their exports, to Britain in particular, extremely competitive and still permitted a generous profit for the factory and its dealers.

Now the pound has fallen 30 per cent against the yen and, much to the delight of BL, Ford and Vauxhall, the Japanese have been forced to increase their prices. For example, Toyota put them up by an average of 4 per cent a couple of months ago and its dealers are being prepared for another increase very soon. The betting is that it will be about 5 per cent.

The timing could hardly have been worse for Land Cruiser, Toyota's big cross-country estate. BL has just launched its new One Ten Land Rover with driver comfort, ride and equipment comparable for the first time to Land Cruiser and also Nissan's Patrol. In the past the Japanese have rightly claimed that their real competitor was the much more expensive Range Rover rather than the primitively equipped Land Rover and its notoriously rough ride.

This week, Land Cruiser's price was increased by 11 per cent from £11,193 to £12,439. This compares with £10,680 for the top-of-the-range V8 Land Rover County Station Wagon. True the County does not have power steering as standard but it can be fitted as an optional extra for £293, still leaving the buyer with a price advantage of nearly £1,000 to play with.

But BL could expect much tougher competition if the 11 per cent ceiling on the Japanese share of our market was lifted. Toyota imports only a thousand Land Cruisers a year her and, because it wants to maximize its profit per unit, those are all the most expensive versions. As a Toyota UK executive said: "If we had unlimited volume we could bring in the basic petrol model, instead of the more expensive diesel, and fit it with minimum equipment. It would probably sell then for something approaching £5,000." Now that would put the cat among the pigeons!

New look child safety seat

The trouble with most child safety seats is that they take so long to fit properly that motorists leave them as a permanent fixture, effectively reducing the rear seat capacity. A promising looking solution to this loss of flexibility us just going on sale in accessory shops.

Called the Junior Lift Seat, it is produced in Sweden where it is fitted by Volvo, which has one of the best safety records in the industry. It also has the approval of the German Government's official test house.

Sprint Motor Accessory Services of Ipswich, Suffolk, are importing and marketing it at recommended retail price of £16.99 plus VAT. They claim at the new seat, designed to accommodate children aged between three and a half and 12 years, lifts the child into a position high enough for a standard rear set belt to be correctly located across the body. The seat is fastened to the belt itself by two locking devices. The nuts retaining those can be operated in ten seconds.



Some motorists are still using an ordinary cushion to prop up children. In the event of a crash the cushion could slip out of postion leaving the child with the belt around his neck. The Swedish seat is not only held in position by the belt, but also has a foot suport which can be adjusted to prevent the child slipping through.

I WILL PRAISE the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving. Psalm 69: 30.

BIRTHS

ATKINS. – On 12th April, to Sally and Richard, a son (Simon Richard), a brother for James.

BRADLEY. On 12th April 1983 at U C H, to Jacqueline (nee Coomaraswamy) and Mark, a son, John Michael, brother for James.

BUTCHER. On 13th April, at St Richard's Hospital, Chichester, to Clare (nee Tyler) and Christopher – a daughter (Lucinda Charlotte), a sister for Philip and Alison.

CORBETT. – On 12th April to Clare and William – a son.

HIBBERT. – On April 1983 at Oxford to Mary & Guy, a daughter (Sarah).

JACKMAN on 14th April, at University College Hospital, London, to Kate (nee Hughes) and Jeremy, a son, Stephen James (Greenwood).

KATONA.–On 11th April, at St Mary's Hospital, to Pam (nee Collard) and Cornelius – a daughter (Cara Phillippa).

LANGTON. – On 12th April to Carole and Andrew, a son (Harry Charles Angus), brother to Clementine and Flossie.

LAW on 12th April 1983 at St Mary's, Paddington, to Carola (nee Codman) and Victor, a son, Matthew.

LLEWELYN-JONES. On April 11th to Sandie (nee Gerrard) and Michael, a son, David Nicholas Gerrard.

PARKER. – On April 12th at the Louise Margret Hospital, Aldershot to Rebecca (nee Wellings) and Nicholas, a second son (Harry).

PHILLIMORE.–On April 12, to Linda and William – a daughter. PO Box 1521 Porterville – 93257 California.

SLACK.–On April 10, at St Thomas's Hospital, to Juliana (née Blok) and Edward – a daughter (Celia Jean Joyce), sister to Katie.

TOVEY-SMITH. – On 5th April, 1983, to Christine and Robin – a son (David Roger John).

WILLIAMS. – On April 13th at Yeatman Hospital, Sherborne, Dorset, to Sandra (nee Foucard) and Timothy – a daughter (Anna Katherine).

WILSON. On April 10 to Jill (nee Darby) and Roger, a daughter Emma Sophie, a sister for James and Anna.

GOLDEN WEDDING

SIXSMITH – BIRCH. – on 15 April, 1933, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, China, Guy to Mary. Now at Sutton Courtenay, Oxon.

SPENCER – ROBINSON. On April 15, 1933, Rolf Edmund to Dorothy Helen. In gratitude for 50 years of supreme happiness.

WALTON-OXBY on April 15 1933 at St Matthews Church, Nottingham, Stanley Leonard Walton to Winnifred Eva Turvey Oxby. Love and congratulations from David, Clara, Philip, Carlina and Robert.

DIAMOND WEDDING

ALDRIDGE – CROSFIELD. – On 17th April, 1923, at St Peter's Church, Belgrave, Leicester, Denis and Kathleen. Now at Wymondham, Melton Mowbray.

DEATHS

ACHESON-GRAY.–On April 13th, peacefully, after a long illness courageously borne, at St Stephen's Hospital, Fulham, Jill (Helene Jeanette) aged 69, widow of Rex and much-loved sister of Doreen. Funeral at Our Lady of Victories, Kensington High Street on Tuesday, April 19th at 10 a.m. Enquiries to P. W. Ballard and Son, 308 Old Brompton Road, SW5. 01-370 6271.

BAGLEY. On 12th April, after a very short illness, Desmond (Simon) of Cater House, Gurnsey, beloved husband of Joan. Donations to the R.N.L.I., Gurnsey, would be appreciated.

BAYLIS. – On April 8th, at Plympton, Plymouth, Graham, aged 22. So dearly loved by Bernice, Mum and Dad, Clive, Martin, Russell and Tim. Funeral service at Plymstock, St. Mary's and All Saints Church, at 3 pm. on Tuesday, April 19th, prior to interment at Drake Memorial Park. Funeral directors Ivor Burch. Telephone Plymouth 41278.

BERESFORD – On 12th April peacefully in his 82nd year after a long illness. His Honour Eric George Harold Beresford, MA, LLB, husband of Barbara and father of Guy and Angela. Requiem Mass at St Andrews Catholic Church, Tenterden, Kent, on Wednesday, 20 April, at 11.00 am.

BROOKFIELD. – Peacefully on 12 April, Samuel Herbert (Brookie), CBE, of 279 Old Bath Rd, Cheltenham, much loved husband and father. Funeral service at St Peter's Church, Leckhampton, on Monday, 18th April, at 11.15. No flowers please. If desired donations to The Bible Churchmens Missionary Society, 251 Lewisham Way, London, SE4 1XF.

BURNETT. – On 9th April, 1983, peacefully in hospital after a short illness, Douglas Haig aged 68 years of Stoke Row, Oxon. Funeral service at Oxford Crematorium on Monday, 18th April, 1983, at 2.30pm. Flowers may be sent to Arthur Butler Ltd., Peppard Common, Henley-on-Thames.

CAMPBELL on 13th April 1983, peacefully at home in Northumberland, Mungo Campbell, CBE, DCL, MA, aged 82. Beloved husband of Betty. Funeral service at Holy Trinity Church, Cambo, on Monday 18th April at 2pm, followed by private interment at Rothbury. Flowers may be sent to Cambo Church.

CHRISTIE, CECILIA. Suddenly whilst on holiday in Arundel, 13th April. Much loved wife of Kit and mother of Tessa and Jane.

COLTMAN.–On April 12, peacefully, at home, after a long illness, John Louis Coltman. Will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. A requiem Mass will be held at St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Christchurch, Dorset at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, April 20, followed by interment. Flowers to Moodys Funeral Directors Ltd., New Milton, Hants.

DIMSDALE.–On April 12, Wilfrid Hampden, aged 76, husband of the late Dr Helen Dimsdale and father of Nicholas. Funeral service at the Crematorium, Mersea Road, Colchester on Thursday, April 21 at 12.30 p.m. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the Friends of Mersea.

DOOLE. – On April 9th, suddenly in Augusta, USA, William Edgar, husband of Irene, beloved father of Peter, Peggy, Kay and Pamela and adored grandfather. Cremation at Eltham Crematorium, 2pm Friday 22nd April. Family flowers only but if desired donations to SPARKS, 6th floor, 25/27 Oxford St. W1R 1RF.

DUNPARK – on 13th April at Western General Hospital, Edinburgh, Bunty (nee Mitchell) loving and much loved wife of Alastair Johnston The Honourable Lord Dunpark, 8 Heriot Row, Edinburgh and loving mother of Alan, Bryan and Colin. Funeral service at Cramond Kirk on Saturday 16th April at 11.00 am. Family flowers only, donations may be sent to St Columba's Hospice, Edinburgh.

HILL. On April 13th, 1983, at Hollington House, Woolton Hill, Newbury, Captain Leslie Allred Hill, DSC, RD, RNR, retired. Devoted husband of the late Una Alice (Elizabeth), formerly Commodore P & O SN Co. Past master the Honourable Company of Master Mariners. Cremation private, no flowers. Donations, if desired, to the Missions to Seamen, St. Michael Paternoster, Royal College Hill, London.

HUNTER.–On April 12th, peacefully, in Harrogate Nursing Home, and of Haviklj Lodge, Scotton, in his 89th year, Major Joseph Charles Hunter, last surviving child of W. S. Hunter, of Gilling, and husband of P. J. Hunter. Service at St Robert's Church, Pannal, Harrogate on Monday, April 18th at 2 p.m., followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, please.

KING.– On April 12 peacefully in hospital, Trevor John King, B Sc, M.A., DPhil, C.Chem, F.R.S.C., Professor Emeritus, University of Nottingham, beloved husband of Barbara and very dearly loved father of Deborah Longson, Caroline Bradford and Jonathan. Service at 11.15 am on Monday, April 18 at the Parish Church of Saint John the Baptist, Beeston, Nottingham, followed by private cremation. Flowers to Ginever, Middle Street, Beeston, Nottingham.

PATON. On April 11, 1983, peacefully, Sybil, beloved wife of Colonel A. Paton, DSO, MC, of Willow Cottage, Crofton Lane, Hillhead, Hants, much-loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral private. No flowers. Donations, if desired, to British Heart Foundation.

PENMAN – On April 12th, Bernard Francis, beloved husband of Dawn and father of Nichola and Glen, following a long and valiant struggle against cancer. Cremation at Eltham Crematorium, 11.30am Wednesday, 20th April. Flowers to the house.

PULLEN. – On April 13th at home, White House, Marsworth, Margaret beloved wife of Brian and dear mother of Nicholas and Elspeth. Aged 78 years. Funeral at All Saints Church, Marsworth, April 19th, 3 pm, followed by private cremation. No flowers but donations may be sent to Church of England Children's Society, The Rectory, Cheddington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds.

RICHARDS – On 11th April, peacefully, aged 90, Amelia Elizabeth widow of William George Richards formerly of Springfield and Chelmsford.

STEPHANIDES.–On April 13th, peacefully, in hospital, Dr Theodore, aged 87, father of Alexia and grandfather of Alexander and Pyrrhus. Funeral private. No flowers or letters at his request.

TAYLOR.–On April 12th, after a long illness, Aubrey Frances, dearly loved and missed by all. Cremation to take place on Monday, April 18th at Putney Vale, 4 p.m. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to Marie Curie Memorial Foundation, 124 Sloane Street, SW1. No letters, please. Enquiries to: E. B. Ashton & Co., 96 Fulham Road, SW3. Tel: 584 0079.

TAYLOR. – Theodore Joseph Christopher von Sobbe Taylor M.B.E., K.S.G., on 12th April, 1983, of Aughton, Lancs, aged 70 years, suddenly among his colleagues at Banks Kendall Taylor and Gorst after 50 years of service to them as well as to his family, many friends, his church and numerous charitable and philanthropic activities. Concelebrated Requiem Mass at the Metropolitan Cathedral Christ The King, Liverpool, on Wednesday, 20th April at 12 noon followed by burial in the family grave at Yew Tree Cemetery. Donations may be sent please in his memory to the Catholic Blind Institute, Christopher Grange, Youens Way, Liverpool L14 2EW. Enquiries to R. McDougall and Co. Ltd., Funeral Directors. Tel: 051 722 1814.

WEST – On April 12th, 1983, suddenly in hospital, W. John, dearly beloved husband of Irene of Canford Cliffs, Poole, Dorset, and formerly of Epsom. Cremation at Bournemouth Crematorium on Thursday, April 21st at 12.30pm. Flowers and enquiries to The Lawns Funeral Home, 366 Ringwood Rd., Parkstone, Poole, Dorset. Tel: 743158.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

ANCASTER, Earl of, K.C.V.O.–A service of thanksgiving for the life of James, Earl of Ancaster, will be held in Lincoln Cathedral at 11 a.m. on Saturday, 16th April and a memorial service will be held at St Margaret's, Westminster at noon on Thursday, 28th April.

BLUNDELL. – A service of thanksgiving for the life of Richard Blundell will be held in the Chapel of Bradfield College on Saturday, April 30, at 3.0 pm.

PALMER. – A memorial service for John Palmer will be held in St Pauls, Wilton Place, Knightsbridge on Friday, May 6th at 5 pm.

IN MEMORIAM

CAMPBELL, BILL. Remembered and loved by all who knew him. Serge.

LIDDELL, Miss Helen Stewart.–For her birthday with all our love.

STERN, ERIC F.–In Loving Memory April 16, 1968.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOIN THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST CANCER

Give to the Cancer Research Campaign and you'll be making a real contribution towards conquering cancer. The Campaign has one of the lowest expense-to-income ratios of any charity and it is the largest supporter in the U.K. of research into all forms of cancer. Please help with a legacy, a deed of covenant donation or gift in memoriam. Cancer Research Campaign, Dept. TX4, 2 Carlton House Terrace, SW1Y 5AR.

HATFIELD, Henry, deceased. Close relatives or dependents of the late Henry Hatfield who died at 106 Salehurst Road, Brockley, Lewisham on 25th November, 1982 and formerly resided at Harrow, Middlesex, are requested to contact the Secretary, The Economist Intelligence Unit Limited, 27 St James's Place, London SW1A 1NT, indicating their relationship.

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BATTERSEA PARK – Architects' own one bed flat, S/c, c.h. Fully furnished. Habitat style. Company let. £75 pw. 01-435 4636/340 7107.

SW17 – Lux house, 4 beds, 2 lge receps, lge fit kit, Sth facing garden. Suit Co or Diplomat pref. £140 pw. Tel 672 1781

W1 – NEW CAVENDISH STREET. 5th flr, lux balcony flat, in new block, 2 dble bedrms, c.h., c.h.w. £195pw. 834 5788.

AMERICAN Executive seeks luxury flat or house up to £360 p.w. Usual fees required – Phillips Kay & Lewis 839 2245.

CHARMING, CHELSEA. New 1 dble bed, sitting room, dining room/kit flat. £105 pw. Up to 1 yr. Tel. 352 9710.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE. 1, 2 & 3 bedroomed furn flats available for co. lets. Maid service. £95, £250 p.w. 584 2692.

RUCK & RUCK 581 1741. Quality furnished & unfurnished properties in prime central areas urgently required and available £100–£1,000pw.

HAMPSTEAD Newly decorated flat, large lounge, bedroom, kitchen/dining, bath near Heath and Finchley Road. £75 p.w. Tel. 01-794 6230.

HAMPSTEAD. S/C Studio Flat for 1, 4 mths let from May 1. £50pw. 01-748 8669.

CHELSEA. Attractive flat. Lounge, 1 dble, 1 sgle bedroom, k & b, C.H. Tel. Long let £125 p.w. 01-730 8732.

KENSINGTON W11. Self contained furnished flat, 1 recp, 2 beds, k and b, gas ch, chw. £90 Tel 229 0353.

SE1. Self-contained furnished flat available short let or Co let preferred. £50 pw. Tel 01-261 9535

SW3. Large fully furn 1 bed flat. £90 p w. To let to a Ltd Co. Apply 01-589 2660 or 01-623 3544.

A BAKER ST. s/c furn. flat, 2 beds., lge rec., kit. Short let. 408 0659.

SW5. Two-bedroom Flat, recep, k & b, ch, chw; £110pw. Willett. 730 3435.

W8. – Large recep, bed, k and b, ch, tv, garden: £90 pw. – 0722 72659.

HAMPSTEAD. 1 bed modern flat. £60 p.w.; co let. – Tel (0276) 31845.

ANIMALS AND BIRDS

1 YR OLD Pekinese dog, affectionate pet. Genuine reason sale. 0491 661320, after 6 pm.

BIRTHDAYS

RACHEL PAIRMAN is 13 today! Happy Birthday. Love M. F. & E.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

BATTISCOMBE. Lt-Col Sammy Battiscombe wishes to thank all those who have written about Karin, for their kind words and sympathy. He hopes they will understand if he does not reply personally. But would like them to know how much their letters have meant to him at this difficult time. His new address will be, Moulton Priory, Moulton, Nr Newmarket, Suffolk.

HUGGINS – Frank, Jock and Peter would like to thank all friends and relatives for the lovely flowers and letters of comfort which were so much appreciated. Please accept this as a personal acknowledgement.

SITUATIONS WANTED

"UNDER UTILISED" FEMALE multilingual, bored with her present position, seeks to stretch her capabilities to the full. Please phone 248 2903 between 11am & 6pm.

SHORT LETS

PARK LANE, W1. Modern luxury flats, redecorated and fully furnished. 2 rooms, kitchen and bathroom, porterage and service. Suit business executive or couple on vacation for short lets from 2 weeks to 3 months from £275 p.w. Apply Miss Thomlin. 01-352 8853 (day) or (09905) 8932 (eves).

FULHAM, self contained gdn. flat. 1-6 mnths., 1 bed, sitting rm., k. & b., c.h., TV, Co. or holiday. Tel. 385 6866 after 6 p.m.

SERVICED apartments in Kensington, with colour TV, 24hr switchboard and telex. Collingham Apartments Ltd. 373 6306.

BAYSWATER. Immaculate flat available April 15 – June 22. £250 pw. 01-221 7129.

INSTANT FLATS, Chelsea. Luxury serviced. Mr Page 373 3433.

U.K. HOLIDAYS

SCOTTISH BORDER. Top quality furnished cottages on private estate in Tweed Valley, 4 miles from Coldstream. Salmon and trout fishing. Tel: (0289) 82245.

NORFOLK BROADS. Thurne Village. s/c 2 bed holiday flat, slp 4, newly fitted 1983 season. Brochure avail. 06927 796.

ROOMY DORSET COTTAGE. Nr Lulworth Cove. Peaceful attractive setting. Plaistow (040388) 370.

YORK 4 MILES, VILLAGE cottage, slps 3 plus cot, colour TV, heated, fully equipped. 0904 794771.

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

ROYAL OVER-SEAS LEAGUE, Park Place, St. James's, and also at 100 Princes St., Edinburgh. The elegant conference and banquet venues. Contact Banqueting Manager 01-493 5051.

FLAT SHARING

N16. M/F to share comfortable large flat, own large room. £28 p.w exclusive. Tel 01-249 6047.

ONSLOW SQ., SW7. Tennis crt. gdns, lux room & share flat, young girl grad with job & normally own home. Wk ends. £100 incl. only per month. 01-589 4730.

FULHAM. One or two girls for large lux. flat overlooks Thames. £147 p.m. inc. heating etc. Tel. 01-730 5249 (day), 01-385 7010 (eves).

BLACKHEATH. F. to share mixed lux flat overlooking heath. 10 mins London Bridge/Waterloo. £35 pw. 691 5522.

SE23. Prof person, non-smoker, own room, quiet family house, b/b and evening meal Monday-Friday, occasional weekends. 699 3071.

TWICKENHAM. F 25+ with sailing interests, own room, garden and garage. £90 p.m. 891 2621 evenings and weekend.

BATTERSEA PARK – Sunny house overlooking garden M/F (30's) £35 pw. Open fire + piano. (E) 228 8434.

NW2–, 2nd prof. M/F share comfortable flat, own large room. £120 p.m. Tel. 450 8990.

BATTERSEA. Female, own room in lux maisonette, non-smoker pref. £145 pcm inc. 223 9144 eves.

CULTURED LADY to share superb mixed flat in Ealing. £28 pw incl. 01-998 9550 aft 7pm.

OVAL, SW9. Prof. F. to share flat with one other. Own room. £108 p.c.m. excl. Tel. 735 9867 (after 2 p.m.).

CLAPHAM COMMON. Share house, lge, own room, prof. £31 p.w. Tel: 228 5031.

CLAPHAM HOUSE. 2 girls wanted to share. £95 pcm incl (each). 673 0485 after 6 pm.

WIMBLEDON – Lady 25+ share gdn flat. Own lge rm. 5 mins BR. £25 pw. 01-540 0620.

FLATMATES, 313 Brompton Rd. selective sharing. 589 5491.

N1. Prof person to share flat, own room. £38 pw inc. 607 6641

SW11 – Prof person to share house, own room £120 pcm. Tel 223 6241

SPORT AND RECREATION

BRIAN JACKS Le Sports exerciser. 1000 pieces offered at £4.50 retail value £25.00. (0244) 549444.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

Father's Help . . . young woman wanted to help father with 4 children, make rambling Gothic Hampstead house (and garden) into Shangri La . . . must be warm, happy, cosy, child-loving, reliable, well-organized and good at snakes and ladders. May be able to drive, type a bit, ride a bike, play tennis and even cook beans on toast. Must not smoke. Permanent job. Start now. Terms to be discussed Call 723 6066 day.

NANNY. Fully experienced, minimum 2 year contract. Live-in, overseas travel on school holidays. To take full charge of 1, 5 & 6 year old children. Tel: 01-341 0088.

HOUSEKEEPER. Male or female, to take full charge of house/cooking, experienced, live-in, good salary + car. Excellent refs. Tel. 01-341 0088.

WANTED: AU PAIR for chateau, south west France, July/August. Write first Mr N. Naish, 69 Plough Lane, Stoke Poges, Slough.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS REQUIRED

FRENCH GIRL, 18, seeks 'au pair' job. £16 p.w. May, June. Miss Jardin, av. G. Borel, 13300 Salon de Provence, France.

FRENCH BOY, 18, seeks job July or Aug. (board and lodging) if possible. Morel A., 6 rue Pasteur, 61160 Trun, France.

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES

COLLECTOR interested in purchasing works by the East Anglian natural artist – Frank Southgate (1872-1916) Box No. 2779 G The Times.

COMPANY MEETING NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that the Ordinary General Meetings of THE LONDON LIFE ASSOCIATION LIMITED and THE METROPOLITAN LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY and the Joint General Meeting of the Association and the Society will be held at The Armourers' Hall, 81 Coleman Street in the City of London, on Wednesday, 18th May, 1983, at 12.30 pm.

a. To receive and consider the report of the Directors and the Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1982 together with the report of the Auditors thereon.

b. To re-elect Directors:–
(i) P. A. Brandt and O. N. Dawson retire by rotation and offer themselves for re-election
(ii) Mr R. M. Mays-Smith and The Hon. M. H. C. Pery having been appointed since the last Ordinary General Meetings, retire and offer themselves for re-election.

c. To re-appoint Price Waterhouse as Auditors.

d. To authorise the Directors to fix the remuneration of the Auditors.

e. To transact ordinary business.

By Order of the Board.
J. POCKETT, Secretary
Dated this 6th day of April, 1983

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

BLUTHNER PIANO showrooms have a superb selection of fine pianos by all leading makes. Part exchange, terms, free delivery and repairs. Write or phone – Bluthner House, 47 Conduit St., London W1 Tel: 01-734 5948 or 01-734 0770.

THE PIANO WORKSHOP. Directly imported pianos from Japan & Korea unbeatable prices, catalogue. 2 Fleet Rd, NW3. 01-267 7671 Open Suns.

PIANOS: H. LANE & SONS, New and reconditioned. Quality at reasonable prices. 326 Brighton Rd., S. Croydon. 01-688 3513.

CHAPPELL BABY GRAND Piano. Excellent condition. £1,200 or offers. (0325) 720235 (eves).

BECHSTEIN UPRIGHT PIANO recently re-conditioned lovely tone. £2,000 ono. Tel: 01-668 6754

SPENCER Grand in good condition. £900 o.n.o. Tel. Wellington (082347) 2011.

STECK BABY GRAND piano. £700 ono. 01-239 0950.

HARPSICHORDS - CLAVICHORDS
Phone 01-852 6151
Begin Music in Your Home
RENTAPIANO
MORLEY GALLERIES
4 Belmont Hill, Lewisham, London, SE13.
HARPS - TUNING - REPAIRS - ESTIMATES

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 001029 of 1983
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
MR JUSTICE VINELOTT
Fo 36 B-38
Monday the 28th day of March 1983
IN THE MATTER OF JOHN RATCLIFF & SONS LIMITED
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948

Upon the Petition of the above-named John Ratcliff & Sons Limited whose registered office is situated at Tong Road, Wortley, Leeds 12 on the 18th of February 1983 preferred unto this Court And Upon Hearing Counsel for the Petitioner And Upon Reading the said Petition (as amended) the Order dated the 17th March 1983 (whereby it was ordered that Section 67 (2) of the above-mentioned Act should not apply as regards any class of Creditors of the said Company) the Affidavit of Ian Laurence Coates filed the 18th February 1983 the Affidavit of Edward Michael Spencer filed the 17th March 1983 the Exhibits in the said Affidavits referred to and "The Times" newspaper of the 19th March 1983 (containing a notice of the presentation of the said Petition and that the same was appointed to be heard this day)

This Court Doth Order that the reduction of the Capital of the said Company from £80,000 to £72,000 resolved on and effected by a Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the said Company held on the 17th February 1983 be and the same is hereby confirmed in accordance with the provisions of the above mentioned Act

And the Court Doth Hereby approve the Minute set forth in the Schedule hereto

And it is Ordered that this Order be produced to the Registrar of Companies and that an Office Copy hereof be delivered to him together with a copy of the said Minute

And it is Ordered that notice of the registration by the Register of Companies of this Order and of the said Minute be published once in "The Times" newspaper within 21 days after such registration.
Registrar

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
MR REGISTRAR BRADBURN
No. 001563 of 1983
IN THE MATTER OF LINOTYPE & MACHINERY LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER of THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 14th March 1983 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £6,000,000.00 to £1,000,000.00 by returning capital which is in excess of the wants of the said Company.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Honourable Mr. Justice Harman at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL on Monday the 25th day of April 1983.

ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

DATED this 15th day of April 1983.
Messrs. Macdonald Stacey,
7/8 King's Bench Walk,
Temple, London, EC4Y 7DT.
ref: 12/MED/1879
Tel: 01 583 8961
Agents for Messrs. Bullock, Worthington & Jackson, of 1 Booth Street, Manchester, M2 2HA.
Solicitors for the above named Company.

No. 001239 of 1983
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN MATTER OF BROOKE TOOL ENGINEERING (HOLDINGS) PLC and IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1948

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 28th March 1983 confirming the reduction of (a) the capital of the above-named company from £3,500,000 divided into 14,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 25p each to £700,000 divided into 14,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 5p each and (b) its Share Premium Account from £1,368,142 to £11,839.40 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 31st March 1983.

DATED the 12th of April 1983.
Nabarro Nathanson,
76 Jermyn Street,
London SW1Y 6NR.
Solicitors for the Company.

No. 002570 of 1981
In the High Court of Justice Chancery Division Companies Court.
In the Matter of DUBBS DEVELOPMENT CO. Ltd. and in the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948.

By Order of the High Court of Justice dated the 13th day of January 1982, I, Richard Eaglesfield Floyd Chartered Accountant of 218 Strand, WC2 in the City of Westminster have been appointed LIQUIDATOR of the above-named Company with a COMMITTEE OF INSPECTION.
Dated this 12th day of April 1983.
R. E. FLOYD
Liquidator.

MIDDLEMASS & Co. (LONDON) Limited.

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above-named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., situated at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Tuesday the 26th day of April 1983 at 10.30 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.
Dated the 6th day of April 1983.
P GIANELLI
Director.

THORPE & CRUMP Limited.

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above-named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., situated at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3 BA on Friday the 22nd day of April 1983 at 12 o'clock midday for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.
Dated the 6th day of April 1983.
E. C. BEBER
Director.

INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENTS (LONDON) Limited

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a Meeting of the creditors of the above named Company will be held at the offices of LEONARD CURTIS & CO., situated at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Wednesday the 27th day of April 1983 at 12 o'clock midday for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.
Dated the 7th day of April 1983
ROBIN WHALLEY Director

Notice is hereby given that Walid Ahmed Kassem has renounced his citizenship of the State of Libya.

Notice is hereby given that Walid Ahmed Kassem is applying to the Home Secretary for naturalisation as a British citizen and that any person who knows any reason why naturalisation should not be granted should send a written and signed statement of the facts to the Under Secretary of State, Home Office (Nationality Division), Lunar House, Wellesley Road, Croydon, CR9 2BY.

In the Matter of G. F. WARD Ltd.
By order of the High Court dated the 7th December 1982 NEVILLE ECKLEY F.C.A. of 10 Bramley Hill, South Croydon, has been appointed LIQUIDATOR of the above-named Company without a COMMITTEE OF INSPECTION.
Dated 7th April 1983.

International Appointments

THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE
based in Strasbourg (France)
is organising a competition for the recruitment of

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
(Male or Female)
of Portuguese/Spanish nationality

The competition is open to holders of a university degree (licenciatura), preferably with some work experience.

Ability to speak and write correctly in one of the two official languages (English and French) essential; some knowledge of the other language desirable.

Age: less than 32 years.

At the end of the selection procedure, a reserve list will be drawn up with a view to filling possible future vacancies.

Starting salary (according to age and experience) including expatriation allowance from 11.427 FF (converted) gross monthly, tax exempt, plus family allowances as appropriate. Deductions about 12% for contributions to French social security, complementary health insurance and employer pension scheme.

Applications in writing to the following address, for further information and application form (to be returned by 20 May).

HEAD OF ESTABLISHMENT DIVISION
COUNCIL OF EUROPE
67006 STRASBOURG CEDEX FRANCE

General Appointments

PERRYS
HAROLD PERRY MOTORS PLC

DIRECTOR

The person to be appointed will have total responsibility for the management of a group of three substantial Ford dealerships, 240 employees, assets of £4 million, and the production of acceptable profits from annual sales in excess of £21 million.

The Perry Group's way of working confers the maximum of authority and local autonomy on directors entrusted with such responsibility. The business knowledge, experience, and personal qualities which the job demands are therefore not merely those normally related to "general manager" posts in the motor trade; they are instead what the Board of one of the country's leading motor groups will look for in the director who will be personally accountable for so important a part of its trading operations.

If you wish to be considered for this appointment you should first study the Group's latest Report and Accounts, of which a copy will be supplied on request. Then, if you believe you could meet our demands and that the Perry Group would satisfy yours, write to:

Mr J. F. Macgregor,
Chairman and Managing Director,
Harold Perry Motors PLC,
2a Alexandra Grove,
London, N12 8NU

ADMINISTRATOR, graduate, aged 25-30, with business studies or engineering degree for high technology conferences. Prof exp in aerospace. Foreign travel involved. Interesting work planning and programming. Good prospects. Please phone Maggie Gale, Business People Recruitment Consultants. 409 0823.

COUNTRY PROPERTY

DEVON, BRIXHAM
FISHERMAN'S COTTAGE,
modernised, compact, ideal holiday/weekend retreat, all services. Conveniently situated to local amenities. 10 minutes walk to sea and cliffs. Bargain-sensible offers.
Tel.: 08045 58059

ANCIENT RYE. A pretty, modernised Period Cottage, with splendid views. 3 beds; bath; sitting and dining rooms; fitted kitchen; workroom. Patio garden. £44,000 for quick sale. Apply Geering & Colyer, Rye. Tel. (0797) 223155.

NORTH OF THAMES

PRINCES SQUARE W2
Light, 2nd floor flat, lift, pleasant view, mins. Ken. Gardens, 2 rooms k. & b., ch. 92 yrs. leasehold.
£34,000
01-261 5232 (w)
221 6684 (h)

KENSINGTON W8. Sunny top floor flat. Ideal pied-a-terre. Good decorative order. P/B building, h & c. Porters, C.H., bedrm, living, kitchen, bathroom, dining. Fully carpeted, fitted cupboards. Lease 73 years. £34,400 o.n.o. for early sale. Tel: 01-602 3373.

CITY RD. : ISLINGTON. Georgian property. Non-profit housing body offers spacious self contained one bed flats £20,800 to £22,780 incl. total modernization. New lease 99 years. Details – Partnership Homes Ltd, 6 Middleton Bldgs, Langham St., London, W.1 Tel (01) 580 1985.

NON-SECRETARIAL APPOINTMENTS

PERSONAL ASSISTANT (20-28) for the advertising manager of Fleet Street group of publications. Good education, with 'A' level English minimum requirement. Careful training given. Must live in the Metropolitan area. Private letters to Mrs Elkington, 107-111 Fleet St., London, EC4.

SUPER SECRETARIES

Part Time?
Want to combine work with running your house? Small property management company requires efficent mature secretary to work 5 hours per day Monday to Friday.
Salary by arrangement.
Tel 01-839 2345
(24 hr answerphone).

SECRETARIES FOR ARCHITECTS and Designers. Permanent/temporary positions. AMSA Specialists Agency 01-734 0532.

EXPERIENCED AUDIO/SEC for Mayfair estate agents. Super job for bright person. c. £6000. Mr Stuart 491 4101

PART TIME VACANCIES

SECRETARY AND PERSONAL ASSISTANT
Required for Directors of small but growing firm of investment managers in EC4, preferably three days per week. Shorthand not essential.
Ring 236 8224.

STEPPING STONES

TRAINEE with 3 good 'A' levels grade C min. Some office exp or incomplete university course for major Co. EC2. £5,300 to start. Covent Garden Bureau, 53 Fleet St., EC4. 01-353 7696.



To advertise in the Times or Sunday Times please telephone 01-837 3311 or 3333

Alternatively you may write to:

Times Newspapers Ltd, Classified Dept, FREEPOST, London, WC1 8BR

No stamp necessary
(Please include a daytime telephone number)

هكذا من الاصل

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM. News headlines, weather, sport and traffic details. This service is also available with a television set without the Teletext facility.

6.30 Breakfast Time: Today's presenters are Selina Scott and Frank Bough. News headlines at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30. Headlines on the quarter hours, and regional news and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15. Today's guests, Peter Ustinov and Harold Macmillan, will be talking about the Soviet Union.

12.30 News After Noon: and weather prospects; 12.57 Financial Report. And news headlines, with sub-titles.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One: the conversation and music magazine from the studio foyer.

1.45 Postman Pat: puppet story for the youngsters.

2.00 American Gardens: A non-commentary, pictures-and-music "filler" rather like the soothing potters wheel "fillers" of old.

2.15 Racing from Newbury: Featuring the big race of the day – the Gainsborough Stud Fred Darling Stakes, at 3.00. We also see the 2.30 and 3.30 races. Commentary by Julian Wilson.

3.55 Play School: (also on BBC 2, at 11.00am): 4.20 The New Schmoo: cartoon; 4.40 The Unknown Enchantment: by Rosamary Harris. The story of the casting of a spell.

5.10 Breakthrough: New series begins. John Craven tells the story of Edward Jenner, the humble village doctor who made the first important discovery about smallpox. He visits Jenner's house at Berkeley. In future programmes, John Craven will be telling the stories of Joseph Lister, pioneer of antiseptic surgery, and Edwin Chadwick, who fought to clean up the streets and sewers of rich industrial cities of 19th century England.

5.35 Roobarb (r).

5.40 News: and weather prospects; 6.00 South East at Six; 6.22 Nationwide: including Sportswide at 6.45.

7.00 Film: A Gathering of Eagles (1962) Drama about the United States's Strategic Air Command in the nuclear age, with Rock Hudson as the efficiency-obsessed colonel who gives others at his command base a very trying time. Produced and directed by two former flyers, Sy Bartlett and Delbert Mann, and co-starring Mary Peach, Rod Taylor and Barry Sullivan. The flying sequences are fine.

8.50 Points of View: Barry Took comments on viewers' letters and makes an entertainment out of it.

9.00 News: and weekend weather prospects.

9.25 Cagney and Lacey: American-made drama series about two policewomen. Tonight, the authorities allow a master jewel thief to slip through their fingers. He is an elderly gentleman, arrested on a minor charge and released on bail.

10.15 Happy Endings: Another view of life composed by Peter Skellern in a blend of music and comedy. The last in the present repeated series (r).

10.45 News headlines: and weather prospects for the weekend.

10.50 Film: Valdez is Coming (1971) Conventional Western about a Mexican lawman who kills a suspect and tries to make amends by caring for the widow. Made in Spain, and starring Burt Lancaster, Susan Clark, John Cypher and Frank Silvera. Directed by Edwin Sherin. Ends at 12.25am.

TV-am

6.00 Daybreak: followed at 6.30 by Good Morning Britain, presented by Anna Ford and Nick Owen. Items include news at 6.00, 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00, and 9.11; City news at 6.15; Review of the papers at 6.33; Sport at 6.40 and 7.30; TV spot at 7.50, interview with John Curry at 8.20. Money Talks at 8.40 and Crafty Cooking, with Michael Barry, at 9.06. Closedown at 9.15.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 Sesame Street: learning things, with The Muppets; 10.30 Science International: facts for Everyman; 10.35 The Poseidon Files: The hunt for the humpback whale; 11.30 Film Fun: Compilation of award-winning Warner Brothers cartoons, presented by Derek Griffiths (r).

12.00 Topper's Tales: with Julian Orchard (r); 12.10 Rainbow: with Gerry Marsden as guest; 12.30 Wild, Wild, World of Animals: the clever tricks of the racoon's cousin, the Coati Mundi.

1.00 News from ITN; 1.20 Thames area news; 1.30 About Britain: The story of a Scots marching band formed in Glasgow and now competing nationally.

2.00 A Plus: The topic is middle age. A studio audience discuss it with writers Molly Parkin and Christopher Matthews.

2.30 Film: Too Many Crooks (1958) Engaging British comedy about a gang of bungling kidnappers. With Terry-Thomas, George Cole, Sidney James and Vera Day. Director: Mario Zampi.

4.00 Children's ITV: Rainbow (r); 4.20 Dangermouse: the cartoon series that is now selling well in video form; 4.25 Animals in Action: All sorts and conditions of frogs.

4.50 Freetime: Youngsters perform songs they have written.

5.15 Make Me Laugh. A chuckle-provoking contest.

5.45 News: 6.00 The 6 o'clock Show: The lighter side of the news, with Michael Aspel and Janet Street-Porter.

7.00 Family Fortunes: Prize and cash quiz, with Bob Monkhouse. The Browns from Ardrine take on the Ladds from Romford, Essex.

7.30 Hawaii Five-O: Steve Garrett suspects that a doctor is illegally supplying drugs to addicts.

8.30 Pig in the Middle: Susan embraces her new-found freedom and Barty begins to feel trapped. With Joanna van Gyseghem and Terence Brady.

9.00 Death of an Expert Witness: Episode 2 of Robin Chapman's dramatization of the P D James murder story reveals the private, poetic side of Adam Dalgliesh of the Yard (Roy Marsden). And Maxim Howarth (Barry Foster) starts work as the new director of the scientific team at Hoggatt's forensic laboratory.

10.00 News at Ten.

10.30 The London Programme: Islington Council has earned for itself the name of "the Bananas Republic" because of the odd subjects that end up on the agenda for debate by its left-wing members. We learn tonight why the council has rivalled the GLC for the column inches it has won in the newspapers.

11.00 Shoot Pool! The second match in the John Bull Bitter London Pool Championships has Charlie Nolan competing against Raymond Farrbrother.

12.15 Close: Brian Blessed reads something by Francis Bacon.

Timothy Spall in Guests of the Nation (BBC 2, 9.30 pm).

BBC 2

6.05 Open University. Until 8.10. Maths Methods: linear equations; 6.30 Beneath Scotland; 6.55 Engineering Statics; 7.20 Quantum: Theory and atomic structure; 7.45 Molluscan evolution.

11.00 Play School: also on BBC 1 at 3.55. Closedown at 11.25.

5.10 ABC in Kansas City: The last of four films on ABC's coverage of the 1976 Republican Convention in Kansas City.

5.35 Weekend Outlook. Open University preview.

5.40 Film: A Date with the Falcon (1941). Modestly made thriller starring George Sanders at his immaculate best. It is the story of a famous scientist who disappears. Co-starring Wendy Barrie.

6.40 Cameo: a short pictorial essay.

6.50 Madhur Jaffrey's Indian Cookery: Rogan Josh.

7.15 News summary. With sub-titles.

7.20 Headingley Test: How a cricket wicket is made. The story of Keith Boyce, head groundsman at Headingley whose job is to prepare all 20 wickets on the square. But much of his skill and energy is reserved for wicket number 12 – the Test wicket. We learn how, in the summer of 1981, wicket 12 went badly wrong.

7.50 Did You See ...? A panel (Margaret Jay, Bernard Ashley and Yusuf Hassan) discuss Tucker's Luck, 20-20 Vision (the Channel 4 programme about punters) and Village Earth. And Miles Kington talks about doctors and nurses on television. The presenter: Iain Johnstone.

8.35 Gardeners' World: Kenneth and Gillian Beckett write books and their garden at Stanhoe, Norfolk not only gives them interest and pleasure but also provides them with living reference material. Roy Lancaster and Geoff Hamilton visit the garden.

9.00 Entertainment USA: Jonathan King, in New York City, looks at life and entertainment in America. Items include star interviews, a review of American television, and a report on local radio, American-style. First in a new eight-week series.

9.30 Guests of the Nation: Maurice Leitch's adaptation of Frank O'Connor's classic Irish short story set in County Cork in 1920. Starring Timothy Spall and Tim Woodward. (See Choice)

10.25 Newsnight: comment and news bulletins.

11.15 The Old Grey Whistle Test: Recorded in Dortmund, Germany, this "rock-pop in" concert features Gary Moore and R.E.O. Speedwagon. Can be seen again on April 19. Ends at midnight.

● GUESTS OF THE NATION (BBC 2, 9.30pm) began life as a short story by Frank O'Connor and as such made a complete statement about a familiar phenomenon that can arise in times of war: the unofficial fraternization between enemies when temporarily removed from official front-lines. Maurice Leitch has now turned the story into a play and there should be much rejoicing over the fact that the dramatization has not resulted in a dilution of the force of O'Connor's original statement. Such is the universality of the predicament of the two British soldiers captured by the rural Irish during the Troubles of the 1920s that the nature of the conflict itself never obtrudes. At times, it could almost be an O'Casey play we are watching. Fine acting all round,

CHANNEL 4

5.15 Acting with Anne: The disciplined play techniques that are perfected at Anne Scher's children's theatre in Islington are demonstrated in this, the first of six films about a remarkable school devoted to what Miss Scher calls "fact-finding".

5.30 Countdown: Word quiz game, presented by Richard Whiteley and Kenneth Williams.

6.00 Switch: The show that is aimed directly at the pop music generation. Includes a location report by Marc Issue, and music from Alison (Alf) Moyet and Orange Juice.

7.00 Channel Four News: News and comment.

7.30 The Friday Alternative: Sharp focus on Asians and blacks in Leicester – their feelings about the white community in the city in general and why they think that, in some respects, (culture and business success) they are sometimes superior to the local whites.

8.00 What a Picture: First in new series intended to help the amateur photographer to take better pictures. The tutor is John Hedgecoe, Professor of Photography at the Royal College of Art.

8.30 Jazz on Four: Joint recital at the Royal Albert Hall by three masters of the guitar: John McLaughlin, Larry Coryell and Paco de Lucia.

9.30 Capstick Capers: Jokes and stories from the comedian and singer Tony Capstick. He is supported by the Carleton Main Frickley Colliery Band. The setting is a club where Mr Capstick's "twin brother" also works.

10.00 Cheers: A timid young priest-to-be makes amorous advances towards Diane, the girl in the American saloon bar.

10.30 Predicaments: Mavis Nicholson encourages a group of ordinary people to discuss their feelings about the prospect of impending death. This is the ninth programme in what has become a compelling series which has gained much from Miss Nicholson's committed interviewing technique.

11.15 Film: The Big Shot (1942"). Modestly budgeted thriller with Humphrey Bogart as the gangster who tries to go straight but is then caught up in a criminal enterprise masterminded by a lawyer. It was Bogart's last B-movie for Warner Brothers, the company for whom he made his best films and it was made in the same year that he appeared in Casablanca. The film co-stars Irene Manning, Richard Travis, Susan Peters, and Stanley Ridges (as the lawyer). Directed by Lewis Seiler. Ends at 12.45.

CHOICE

especially from Timothy Spall as the provocative Hawkins. And the experienced hand of the director, Donald McWhinnie, is everywhere in evidence.

● The five-minute Radio 1 spot on Saturday afternoons which Jonathan King has been filling with his unorthodox comments on contemporary America, has marked him out as a performer who defies classification. There are neither flies nor moss on Mr King. The surprising thing is that he has had to wait so long for a television series of his own such as ENTERTAINMENT USA (BBC 2, 9.00pm). I have seen nothing of these new showbusiness programmes, but if Mr King's radio work is anything to go by, we might be in for some stimulating fun.

● Radio highlights: THE DAILY WOMAN (Radio 3, 9.20pm), a story by Bernard MacLaverty, read by Brid Brennan in an unemotional way that underlines the overall tragedy rather than undermines it, is about a maltreated Belfast wife who "does for" the businessman who pays £75 for the use of her body and thereby makes it possible for her to enjoy one night of fear-free luxury and contact with someone who, for once, demands nothing of her . . . . Music highlights include Emanuel Ax's Beethoven and Chopin recital (Radio 3, 7.30pm); and Alexander Baillie as cello soloist in Dutilleux's Tout un monde lointain, performed by the BBCSO and Chorus (Radio 3, 10-11pm). Poulenc's Gloria completes an attractive programme.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today, including 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 6.45, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.25, 8.25 News Headlines. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.57 Weather.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs: violinist Rugger Ricci†
10.00 News.
10.02 International Assignment.
10.30 Morning Story: Open Our Eyes, O Lord! by Gwyn Clark.
10.45 Daily Service†
11.00 News, travel.
11.03 The Domesday Oak: the natural history of an oak tree.
11.48 Bird of the Week: the sparrow.
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours.
12.27 My music† 12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Rodney Stone, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (3).
4.00 News.
4.02 Just After Four.
4.10 Well Woman and Cancer: the cancers that affect women and how they can be treated.
4.40 Story Time: Goodbye to All That, by Robert Graves (5).
5.00 PM.
5.50 Shipping Forecast, weather.
6.00 News; Financial Report.
6.30 Going Places.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week†
8.10 Profile.
8.30 Any Questions?
9.15 Letter from America, by Alistair Cooke.
9.30 Kaleidoscope: arts magazine.
9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.35 Week Ending: a satirical review†
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: Bellman and True, by Desmond Lowden (10).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
11.45 Laurie Taylor in the BBC Sound Archives.
12.00 News, weather.
ENGLAND: VHF with above except 6.25-6.30 am Listening Corner. 11.00-12.00 Study on 4.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: Rossini, Mozart, Grieg†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert (continued): Corelli, Tartini, Handel, Geminiani.
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composers: The Spanish Golden Age. Pedro de Escobar, Francisco Guerrero, Mudarra, Flecha, Ortiz†
10.00 20th-Century Piano Pieces: Kodaly, Stravinsky†
10.40 Collegium Aureum: Mozart, Haydn†
11.45 Tippett and Liszt: Choral music†
12.15 Three Dvorak Overtures: BBC Concert Orchestra†
1.00 News.
1.05 Six Continents.
1.20 Maurice Bourgue: Oboe and piano recital. Kalliwoda, Nielsen, Frohlich, Donizetti†
2.00 Four Spanish Musicians: Conchita Supervia, mezzo-soprano.
3.00 The British Symphony: Arne, Stanford†
4.00 Choral Evensong from Chichester Cathedral†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure†
6.30 Music for Guitar: Mudarra, Scarlatti, Bach, Sor, Granados, Albeniz†
7.10 Poetry Now.
7.30 Emanuel AX. Piano recital†
8.15 Was Hamlet Mad? Talk by Michael Neve, Lecturer in the History of Medicine, London University.
8.35 Emanuel AX Part 2: Chopin†
9.20 The Daily Woman: Short story by Bernard MacLaverty.
10.00 Music from France: BBC Symphony Orchestra & Chorus.
11.15 News.
VHF ONLY: Open University: 6.15am Hume's Science of Man. 6.35-6.55 The Metaphysical Poets. 11.20-11.40pm Welfare from Below.

Radio 2

5.00am The Early Show.† 7.30 Ray Moore.† 10.00 Jimmy Young. 12.00 Music While You Work.† 12.30 Gloria Hunniford, including 2.02 Sports Desk.† 2.30 Ed Stewart, including 3.02 Sports Desk.† 4.00 David Hamilton, including 4.02, 5.30 Sports Desk.† 6.00 John Dunn, including 6.45 Sport and Classified Results.† 7.30 Jim MacLeod and his Band.† 8.15 Friday Night Is Music Night.† 9.30 Comediennes. 9.57 Sports Desk. 10.00 The Random Jottings of Hinge and Bracket. 10.30 Geoffrey Cannon presents Round Midnight. 1.00am Night Owls. 2.00-5.00 Liz Allan: You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

6.00am Adrian John with The Early Show. 7.00 Steve Wright. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Mike Smith, including 12.30pm Newsbeat. 2.00 Gary Davies. 4.30 Peter Powell's Select-a-Disc. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 10.00 The Friday Rock Show with Ian Gillan.†

VHF Radio 1 and 2: 5.00am With Radio 2. 10.00pm With Radio1. 12.00-5.00am With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00am Newsdesk. 6.30 The Art of Daniel Barenboim. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours News Summary. 7.30 Sing, Sing, Sing. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Parade. 8.30 Thirty Minute Theatre. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Album Time. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 11.25 Ulster Newsletter. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 1.30 With Great Pleasure. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 The Art of Daniel Barenboim. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 8.30 Thirty Minute Theatre. 9.00 Network UK. 9.15 Music Now. 9.45 Portraits of our Time. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 Help Yourself to Health. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook: News Summary. 1.45 Love and Mr Lewisham. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Pleasures. 4.45 Financial News. 4.55 Reflections. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Review of the British Press. 5.15 About Britain. 5.45 The World Today.
(All Times in GMT)

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1

BBC WALES 12.57-1.0pm News. 3.53-3.55 News. 6.0-6.22 Wales today. 10.15-10.45 Celena. 10.45-10.50 News. 12.25am Close. SCOTLAND 12.55-1.0pm News. 6.0-6.22 Reporting Scotland. 10.15-10.45 The Beechgrove Garden. 10.45-10.50 News. 12.25am Close. NORTHERN IRELAND 12.57-1.0pm News. 3.53-3.55 News. 6.0-6.22 Scene around six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 10.45-10.50 News. 12.25am News. ENGLAND 6.0-6.22pm Regional news magazines. 10.15-10.45 East – Weekend. Midlands – Midlands Tonight. North – Gardeners' direct line. North East – Coast to Coast: Arthur. (The work of film cameraman Arthur Nicholson). North West – Outlook (the causes of industrial malaise). South – Don't fence me in (the changing Southern environment). South West – The Jersey Ark (Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust). West – Public life: the hidden homeless. 12.30am close.

S4C

Starts 2.10 pm Nodi. 2.20 Ark in the Move. 2.45 Good Food Guide. 3.10 Root and Branch. 3.35 Old Country. 4.00 Planet of the Apes. 4.50 Clwb S4C. 4.55 Pili-Pala. 5.00 Sbri Celwydd Golau. 5.30 Loose Talk. 6.30 Abbott and Costello. 6.55 Gair yn ei Bryd. 7.00 Newyddion saith. 7.30 Yng nghwmni. 8.10 Pobol y Cwm. 8.40 Y Byd Yn Ei le. 9.15 Soap. 9.40 The Gamekeeper. 11.05 Jazz on Four. 12.00 Gair yn ei Bryd. 12.05 am Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As London except: Starts 9.25am News. 9.30 Young Ramsay. 10.25 Survival. 10.55 European Folk Tales. 11.05-11.30 Vicky the Viking. 12.30pm-1.00 Men of Science. 1.20-1.30 News and Lookaround. 2.30 Film: Blue Parrot" (Dermot Walsh). 3.55-4.00 TT Time. 5.15-5.45 Joannie Loves Chachi. 6.00-7.00 Northern Life. 7.30 Fall Guy. 8.30-9.00 Make Me Laugh. 10.32 Friday Live. 12.00 Making a Living. 12.30 Three's Company. 12.35 Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN.
† Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

TSW

As London except: 9.30 am Young Ramsay. 10.25 Poetry of Landscape. 10.40 History of the Car. 11.05-11.30 Call it Macaroni. 12.30 pm-1.00 News. 2.30-4.00 Film: Cover Girls. Fashion modeld act as undercover agents. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead. 7.30-8.30 Lou Grant. 10.35 Film: To Sir With Love (Sidney Poitier). Black teacher arrives at an East End school. 12.25 am Postscript. 12.31 Closedown.

GRANADA

As London except: 10.30am Bubbles. 10.35 Handful of Songs. 10.45 Eild, Wild World of Animals. 11.05-11.30 Adventures of Niko. 12.30-1.00 Men of Science. 1.20-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00-4.00 Film: Wuthering Heights (Anna Calder-Marshall) Emily Brontë story. 5.15-5.45 Beverly Hillbillies. 6.00 Make Me Laugh. 6.30-7.00 Granada Reports. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 9 to 5. 11.00 Friday Night. 11.45 Film: Crunch. Detective investigates the kidnapping of an actress. 1.40am Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 10.30 am Contact. 10.55 Children of Hongkong. 11.05-11.30 Welcome back Kotter. 12.30 pm-1.00 Men of Science. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.30 Film: Mulligan's Stew: Football coach has a team of children at home, too. 3.55-4.00 Cartoon. 6.00-7.00 Calendar and Sport. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Snooker. 11.15 Film: Colour Him Dead. Husband and wife are hired to protect an eccentric tycoon. 12.35 am Closedown.

ANGLIA

As London except: 10.30am Wattoo Wattoo. 10.40 Hands. 11.05-11.30 Paint Along With Nancy. 12.30pm-1.00 Men of Science. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.30-4.00 Film: Perfect Woman. Comedy about a professor who invents a robot woman. 5.15-5.45 Gambit. 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 9 to 5. 11.00 Members Only. 11.30 Film: Cassnova '70 (Marcello Mastroianni) Amorous adventures of a modern-day Casanova. 1.35am You Know The Old Saying, Closedown.

BORDER

as London except: 10.30 am Larry the Lamb. 10.40 Struggle Beneath the Sea. 11.05-11.30 Fangface. 12.30 pm-1.00 Men of Science. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.30-4.00 Film: Operation Cross Eagles. Wartime resistance movement tries to rescue an American. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 Bygones. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Country Music Jamboree. 11.00 Film: Devil's Web. Nurse spins her satanic web around her charge. 12.20 am News. 12.23 Closedown.

CENTRAL

As London except: Starts 9.45am Film Fun. 10.10 Dick Tracy Returns. 10.25 European Folk Tales. 10.40 Joe 90. 11.05 Making of The Empire Strikes Back. 11.55-12.00 Wattoo, Wattoo. 12.30pm-1.00 Men of Science. 1.20 News. 1.30 Three Little Words. 2.00 Film: Contraband Spain (Richard Greene) FBI agent investigates his brother's death. 3.30-4.00 Sons and Daughters. 6.00-7.00 News. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Central's Girl of the Year. 11.00 News. 11.05 Film: Aggression (Jean-Louis Trintignant) Husband decides to avenge his family's murder. 1.00am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN

As London except: Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 10.30 Cartoon. 10.40-11.30 Space 1999. 12.30 pm-1.00 Men of Science. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.30-4.00 Film: Support Your Local Sheriff (James Garner). Gold upsets the quiet life of a drifter. 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Film: Experiment in Terror (Glenn Ford). Bank desk becomes the target of terror. 12.40 am News. 12.45 Closedown.

TVS

As London except: 10.30 am Cartoon. 10.40-11.30 Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea. 12.30 pm Men of Science. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.30-4.00 Film: Charlie's Angels. TV series film. 6.00 Coast To Coast. 6.30-7.00 Friday Sportshow. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Newhart. 11.00 Showcase. 11.15 Film: Without Love. Woman journalist decides on a life "without love". 1.15 am Company. Closedown.

SCOTTISH

As London except: 10.30-12.00 Film: Storm in a Teacup. 12.30 pm-1.00 Men of Science. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.30 Trapper John. 3.00-4.00 Make me Laugh. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Hear Here. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 9 to 5. 11.30 Late call. 11.35 Gangster Chronicles. 12.30 am Closedown.

HTV

As London except: 10.30 am Cartoon. 10.40 Struggle Beneath the Sea. 11.05-11.30 Sport Billy. 12.30 pm-1.00 Men of Science. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.30-4.00 The Chisholms. 5.15-5.45 Young Doctors. 6.00 News. 6.30-7.00 Survival of the Fittest. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.28 HTV News. 10.30 Report Extra. 11.00 Film: Love Affair: Eleanor and Lou Gehrig Story. Baseball star's romance and decline. 12.45 am Closedown.

HTV WALES

As HTV West except: 11.05 am-11.30 Spiderman. 6.00 pm-7.00 Wales at Six. 10.30-11.00 Who, What, When, Where?

ULSTER

As London except: 10.30am Wonderful Stories of Professor Kitzel. 10.35 Flying Kiwi. 11.00 Cartoon 11.05-11.30 Adventures of Gulliver. 12.30pm-1.00 Men of Science. 1.20-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.30-4.00 Film. Storm in a Teacup (Vivien Leigh) Fining of an old lady becomes a national issue. 6.00 Good Evening, Ulster. 6.30-7.00 Two of Us. 7.30-8.30 The Entertainer. 10.30 Robert White Sings The American Songbook. 10.45 Witness. 10.50 Film: Double Kill (Gary Coleman). 12.05 News. Closedown.

CHANNEL

As London except: Starts 12.00-12.10 pm Toppers Tales. 12.30-1.00 Men of Science. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.30-4.00 Film: Cover Girls. As TSW. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.25 Brady Bunch. 6.55-7.00 What's on Where. 7.30-8.30 Lou Grant. 10.35 Film: To Sir With Love. As TSW. 12.25 am Closedown.

Solidarity calls for May Day mass protests

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Poland's underground Solidarity leader yesterday called for mass protests against Government policies on May Day, an appeal that follows weekend talks with Mr Lech Walesa, chairman of the banned union.

The underground leaders said that regional outposts of Solidarity should try to secure the largest possible attendance at May Day rallies which would march under the slogans: "Freedom for political prisoners", "Restore citizens' rights", and "End price rises". Mr Walesa, asked whether he associated himself with the protest appeal, said that he had *not signed it but* did not necessarily distance himself from the message.

This casts a new cloud of uncertainty over the former Solidarity leader who met for three days with the underground leaders and thus treads a narrow line between breaking the law and remaining within it. The arrest of Mr Walesa would have far reaching implications both for the Papal visit to Poland in June and for the *Polish Government's standing* in the West.

Earlier, Mrs Danuta Walesa was questioned for two and a half hours by the police about her husband's meeting with the underground.

Before entering the Gdansk militia headquarters, Mr Walesa advised his wife to say only that he had been away for the weekend and to refuse to answer any questions about the meeting.

Mr Walesa, who was interrogated for almost five hours on Wednesday, said that he was asked how he had avoided police surveillance, where the meeting had taken place and what he meant in his brief communique when he said that he had coordinated his strategy with the underground leadership.

Neither Mr Walesa nor *his* wife are obliged to say anything that would incriminate them. It is, however, clear that Mr Walesa, who on his release from internmant six months ago said that he was walking a "greased tightrope", could still have charges pressed against him is if the police turn up evidence that shows that he discussed "illegal" actions with the underground.

Mr Walesa may well meet Cardinal Jozef Glemp, the Polish Primate, when he travels to Gdansk on Sunday. The Primate is due to attend the consecration of a new auxiliary bishop – and it is believed that he may use the occasion to urge caution on Mr Walesa.

Mr Walesa has felt himself forced to assume more radical postures over the past few months as he travels around the country attending trials of *union activists and meeting* his former colleagues. Somehow he has to meet his followers' expectations and at the same time ensure that he is not instrumental in the cancellation of a papal visit. Before driving *his wife to the militia station*, Mr Walesa met Bishop Lech Kaczmarek of Gdansk and his friend Father Henryk Jankowski to dicuss the possibilities of meeting the Primate.

● GDANSK: Mrs Walesa, said later that she refused during the interrogation to answer questions about her husband's activities, Reuter reports.

Attenborough in storm

Continued from page 1

want black and white people in South Africato see it."

Mrs Shanthie Naidoo, Gandhi's adopted grand-daughter, also urged Sir Richard not to go. "We believe people should boycott South Africa completely. To show this film in that country is an insult. The liberation movement there has called for it to be boycotted. They do not need a film to show them what apartheid is all about.

Mrs Naidoo, a secretary in London, said she had spent a *year in solitary confinement in* South Africa before coming to Britain.

In South Africa, Mr Cassim Saloojee, a prominent Indian *involved in the Gandhi Centenary* Council, said: "We hope that the showing of the film will inspire people to reexamine Gandhi's concept of non-violent resistance".

The Black British Standing Conference against Apartheid said Sir Richard's decision to allow the film to play before separate audiences accepted "the principle of Apartheid, something Gandhi rejected".

Plea to Attenborough, page 5

Back home: Mr Walesa with his wife in their Gdansk flat after the Solidarity leader's five-hour interrogation

Jobless youths offered Armed Forces training

Continued from page 1

ance to pay for food and accomodation. The cost of the scheme for the Government is small. The £6.7m a year it will cost the Department of Employment will come from the existing £1,000m Manpower Services Commission budget. The Ministry of Defence is contributing £1m to subsidize the difference between the £10 a week being deducted for food and accommodation and the higher charge for regulars of £16.53 a week.

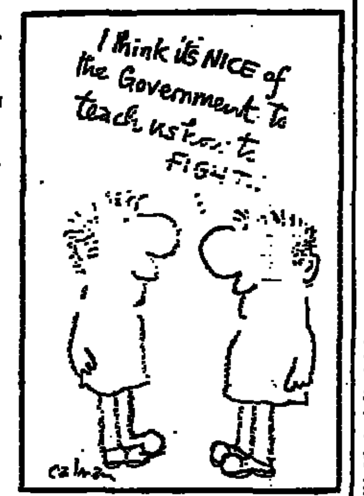
Mr Heseltine told the Commons that there would be opportunities for youngsters who completed their one year satisfactorily to continue in the services, but it could not be an automatic right.

He made it clear that the volunteers would be subject to military law. Youngsters will be able to volunteer for the Armed Service of their choice, but the individual service will decide which part they should serve in.

Conservative MPs welcomed Mr Heseltine's plans but they were bitterly attacked by the *Opposition*.

● The Trades Union Congress is likely to oppose the training scheme (the Press Association reports). A spokesman said last night: "A similar proposal for military training under the Manpower Services Commission youth opportunities programme was firmly rejected by the TUC.

Parliament, page 4



Park Royal printers reject peace formula

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

The future of the Park Royal printing plant in West London has been thrown into doubt once more after 130 members of Sogat '82 refused to endorse a peace plan worked out between their union and management. There are fears that the conflict will continue.

But the British Printing and Communications Corporation, which owns the works, is confident that the deal will enable a return to full production of the *Radio Times*. The dispute has caused the loss of over 12 million copies of both the *Radio Times* and the *Listener*.

The rebel printers at Park Royal are to be dismissed without redundancy payments, Mr Robert Maxwell, the company's chairman said in a BBC radio interview yesterday.

Mr Maxwell said several hundred jobs at the works were now under threat because of the action of the 130 men, most of whom are members of the machine room chapel (office branch) of Sogat. "If these *people wish to commit suicide, not even their union can protect* them," he said.

The peace formula worked out by Mr Maxwell and Mr William Keys, general secretary of the union, means that the 3.5 million copies of the *Radio Times* formally printed at Park Royal will now be produced at a sister plant in East Kilbride, Scotland. Production of the *Listener* is also to be transferred from the works, but it has not been decided where.

But it seemed last night that the union had not accepted that the transfer of the *Radio Times* to East Kilbride was a permanent move.

This factor, together with the dismissals of the machine room men, could mean that the dispute is by no means over. The matter will be discussed at a machine room chapel meeting tomorrow.

Mr Maxwell said that the type-setting was to continue at Park Royal and that union members who have endorsed the deal will be paid normally. The dispute began on March 20 when 400 of the 600 workers at the plant were dismissed

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Thatcher treads warily on Gandhi path

One of the many charms of Prime Minister's question time is that we never know who is going to be mentioned.

Names from history frequently are introduced into the exchanges if any MP thinks any particular name might help along his or her argument, Among historical figures mentioned yesterday were Abraham Lincoln, Ghandhi and Mr Michael Foot.

Mr Michael Neubert, the Conservative member for Romford, prefaced a question to Mrs Thatcher with the observation: "On the anniversary of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln . . ."

Mr Neubert paused as members started laughing, and that gave us time to guess what advice he thought it appropriate to offer Mrs Thatcher on the anniversary of the assassination of Lincoln.

Stay away from the theatre that evening? Look more statesmanlike during the election by growing a black beard and bushy black whiskers? Mr Neubert's advice turned out to be: "On the anniversary of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, the Opposition would do better to remember Lincoln's maxim: do not make the rich poorer, make the poor richer."

"I agree with the quotation from Abraham Lincoln," Mrs Thatcher replied. "I also agree that under the last government, tax thresholds fell, whereas under this government, tax thresholds have increased by 5 per cent more than inflation, so there has been a real improvement."

Personal plea over film

So much for Lincoln. Next, Gandhi. Just as Lincoln was, for Mr Neubert's purposes, an early Thatcherite, so it emerged that Gandhi seems to have voted Labour. For a Labour backbencher, Mr Alfred Dubs, of Battersea South, asked the Prime Minister to consider "the well-deserved international praise that the film *Gandhi* has received?"

He added: "Will she, however, make a personal plea to Sir Richard Attenborough not to go to South Africa in order to give that regime his blessing by presiding over the ceremonies to do with that film before segregated audiences?"

Mr Dubs is a staunch opponent of segregation in South Africa rather more so, one suspects, than Gandhi, who, during his many years in that country, opposed discrimination against Indians, but seems to have said next to nothing about discrimination against blacks.

Indeed, he volunteered to help put down a Zulu rising, what would nowadays in the Labour Party be called a freedom fighters' struggle, and was awarded a medal in the process.

Approving beams from Jenkins

Alas, we are being bludgeoned on all sides into adopting a pious tone when talking of Sir Richard's triumphantly misleading film. So Mrs Thatcher had to tread warily. She told Mr Dubs that the film maker must be free to decide whether to attend this South African showing.

But she took care to congratulate "Sir Richard Attenborough and all who took part in the making of this film on their splendid achievement."

Mercifully, she seemed to do so mainly on Thatcherite, commercial grounds. "It is good for British industry," she said, and she mentioned *Chariots of Fire* as well.

Mr Foot made his appearance during protests about the British ship that is being refitted in Malta instead of Britain. But the running on this issue was made by the SDP, the followers of Mahatma Jenkins, the spiritual leader of Britain's teeming *moderates*.

He did not take part in the exchanges, but beamed approvingly as one of his lieutenants denounced Mrs Thatcher for letting down Britain.

This restraint was in keeping with the Jenkins doctrine of non-violence, a doctrine which has got him into trouble with the fanatical followers of the young David Steel. Mr Jenkins is not built for a death fast over the issue, preferring to settle such matters with a slow lunch. I would rather have him as my leader than Gandhi.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

New Exhibitions

Works by Jane Boyd, The Queen's Gate, Trinity College, Cambridge; Tues to Sat 10 to 6 (from today until April 30).

Eighty Years On: Selection from galleries in the North West, City Art Gallery, Mosley Street, Manchester; Mon to Sat, 10 to 6 (from today until May 28).

Cadbury's National Exhibition of Children's Art, City Art Gallery, Museum Road, Old Portsmouth; every day *10.30 to 5.30* (from today until May 17).

Last chance to see

Sir Edward Burne-Jones, Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square, Birmingham; 10 to 5.30 (ends today).

Wooden Bowls by David Pye, Jim Partridge, Howard Raybould, Cecil Jordan, Richard Hayward and David Bennett; Porcelain by Pat Shilston; Woven rugs by Wendy Jones; Katharine House Gallery, the Parade, Marlborough; 10 to 5 (ends today).

After Turner: Repertoire of Turner's works, Gloucester City Museums and Art Gallery, Brunswick Road; 10 to 5 (ends tomorrow).

Paintings, collages and constructions by Michael Rennie, Festival Gallery, Pierrepont Place, Bath; 11 to 5 (ends tomorrow).

Water colours by Bruce Horsfield, Blake Gallery, Georges Lane, Crewkerne; 10 to 4 (ends tomorrow).

Holography Show: three-dimensional images, Chapter Gallery, Market Road, Canton, Cardiff; Mon to Fri 12 to 10, Sat 12 to 4 (ends tomorrow).

Collages by David Petts; Carmarthen Museum, Abergwili; 10 to 4.30 (ends tomorrow).

City Visions 1951-80, Bolton Art Gallery, Le Mans Crescent; Mon to Fri 9.30 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 5 (ends tomorrow).

Work of the Manchester Academy of Fine Art, Gallery of Modern Art, Athenaeum, 81 Princess Street; 10 to 6 (ends tomorrow).

Music

Concert by Leith Hill Festival Choir and Orchestra, Dorking Halls, 7.30

Concert by the Kent County Youth Orchestra, Canterbury Cathedral, 7.30.

Recital by Philip Jones Brass ensemble, The Pavilion, Harbour Street, Broadstairs, 7.45.

Concert by John Heddle Nash, Church Hall, Sprotbrough, 7.30.

Concert by Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, King George's Hall, Northgate, Blackburn, 7.30.

Concert by Scottish National Orchestra Usher Hall, Edinburgh, 7.30.

The City Waites: Concert of medieval and Renaissance popular music, Hind College, Shepshed, 7.30.

Concert by Cambridge Symphony Orchestra, King's College Chapel, Cambridge, 8.

General

Flowers, pools and gardens *exhibition*, Plymouth Exhibition Centre; today 12 to 8, tomorrow 10 to 6, Sunday 10 to 6.

Spring Fair in aid of Counsel and Care for the Elderly, Graham Spicer Hall, New Malden, 10 to 2.30.

Masked Regency Ball in aid of Oxfam, Assembly Rooms, Bath, 8.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,104

ACROSS
1 No end of porridge for him (5).
4 *Hazlitt's* essays – Holmes's breakfast entertainment (5,4).
9 Mother takes risk without saying a word (9).
10 Some alleviation when lease expired (3-2).
11 Cancel subscription but keep in credit (5).
12 Coat may be tried on, for example (9).
13 Cricket side has food shipped (2,5).
15 School where Lawrence once took everything (7).
18 Hardly pleased to have passed away! (7).
20 Donne said to have gone mad in prison-cell (7).
21 Quiet old president given some stick – that's plain (9).
23 Young Montague finds key in changing-room (5).
25 The way to ventilate this case in the House? (5).
26 Norma sent collection of bric-à-brac (9).
27 Grant a concession (9).
28 Weight for age? (5).

DOWN
1 Rock fruit's sound quality (9).
2 Bone of bird caught by father (5).
3 Wine-bottles belonging to David's grandson (9).
4 One crusading to get a title for Disraeli (7).
5 Note about destruction of deer might produce fast reaction (7).
6 The poet's even received two pounds from her (5).
7 Shooting stars once with this? (9)
8 It's no great height for a Springbok (5).
14 Reject proposal for a final pot. (9).
16 Thorndike's character transposed some unusual sets of *symptoms* (9).
17 Lobster cooked along with suet (9).
19 MO has note to show the soldier (7).
20 Remove restrictions in case heard in court? (7).
21 Press body has worried Turkish bigwig (5).
22 Turn-up of this hat to be included in Cromwell's portrait? (5).
24 Get fruit this Friday? Go on! (5).

Solution of Puzzle No. 16,103

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 8

Food prices

There are signs in the shops that summer is on the way, with increasing supplies of English salad vegetables, particularly lettuce and cucumbers; tomatoes, radishes and watercress are also slightly cheaper. Round lettuces are 20-25p each, cucumbers 30-45p, spring onions 15-30p a bunch, and good-quality hothouse tomatoes 75-90p a pound. Best value among winter vegetables are English greens 18-24p a pound, cauliflowers 38-50p each, white and red cabbage *8-16p* a pound, parsnips 12-18p, swedes 8-12p, onions 8-14p, carrots 10-14p.

Strawberries from Spain, Portugal and Israel are 40-60p a punnet. Oranges are less plentiful than usual, but Cape Golden Delicious *apples and New Zealand Coxes are* recommended. Avocados, 20-60p each, are outstanding value.

New season's home produced lamb is now more plentiful. Whole leg in Dewhurst shops is £1.49 to £1.99 a pound and whole shoulder *89p to £1.38*. Sainsbury's have whole leg at £2.10 and whole shoulder at £1.48. Dewhurst's New Zealand lamb is also cheaper: shoulder as little as 59p and leg £1.08. Sainsbury's have cut beef prices to £1.28 for back and top rib and £1.00 for flank. Tesco have brisker at *98p* a pound, stewing steak at £1.28, fore rib at £1.44 and braising steak at £1.40. Frozen joints in Bejam stores are £1.89 for top rump, topside and silverside.

Fish is cheapest in Scotland (£1.10 for cod fillets, £1.16 for haddock and 40p *for mackerel*) and most expensive in Wales (£1.34, £1.36 and 55p respectively).

Best Wines

In a blind tasting of Leibfraumilch wines, two tied for top placing: Blue Nun 1981 (£2.99), H. Sichel and Sons, widely stocked; and *Liebfraumilch* 1981, Hans J. W. Huesgen (£2.29), Davisons Wine shops.
Source: Decanter magazine.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.84	1.76
Austria Sch	27.55	25.75
Belgium Fr	77.75	73.75
Canada $	1.95	1.87
Denmark Kr	13.82	13.12
Finland Mkk	8.74	8.24
France Fr	11.59	11.04
Germany DM	3.88	3.68
Greece Dr	136.00	125.00
Hongkong $	*10.70*	*10.15*
Ireland Pt	1.22	1.17
Italy Lira	2280.00	2180.00
Japan Yen	385.00	365.00
Netherlands Gld	4.36	4.15
Norway Kr	11.42	10.82
Portugal Esc	159.00	145.00
South Africa Rd	1.92	1.75
Spain Pta	211.00	200.00
Sweden Kr	11.96	11.36
Switzerland Fr	3.27	3.09
USA $	1.58	1.52
Yugoslavia Dnr	130.00	118.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 327.3

London: The *FT* Index closed up 1.8 at 688.9.

Anniversaries

Births: Nanak, Sikh guru, Rai Bhoi di Talvandi, India, 1469; Benjamin Jowett, scholar, 1817; Bliss Carman, poet, Fredericton, New Brunswick, 1861; Viscount Bruce of Melbourne, Prime Minister of Australia 1923-29, Melbourne, 1883. Deaths: Mikhail Lomonosov (April 4, old style), writer, St Petersburg, 1765; John Singer Sargent, portriat painter, *London*, 1925. The Titanic, on its maiden voyage, struck an iceberg and sank south of Newfoundland, 1912.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debate on private member's motion on UK dependencies.

Roads

London and South-east: Abbott Road, linking A1o2 Blackwall Tunnel approach and A13 East India Dock Road, closed southbound; southbound traffic on A102 must leave at A11 Bow Road or go through tunnel. **A3216:** One lane only at Chelsea Bridge; use Albert, Battersea or Vauxhall bridges as alternatives. **A308:** Road works on Sunbury Road/Hampton Road, Hampton; avoid Hampton Court area.

Wales and West: M5: Lane closures between junctions 24 (Minehead) and 25 (Taunton). **A55:** Single lane, temporary signals 24hr a day at Old Colwyn on Abergale to Conway road. **A40:** Resurfacing on Thirlestaine Road, Cheltenham; diversion.

Midlands: A456: Bekdley Road closed at Kidderminster; diversions. **A41:** Diversions northbound on High Street, Knowle. **M1:** Lane closures northbound and on slip roads between junctions 27 and 28 near Mansfield.

North: A1: Roadworks at many places Newcastle to Berwick. **M6:** Northbound carriageway shared between junctions 41 and 42, S of Carlisle. **A590:** Lane slosures and temporary signals between Greenodd and Ulverston.

Scotland: M8: Outside lanes closed between junctions 26 and 29 (Hillington and St James). **A8:** Alexandra Parade closed at Castle Street, Glasgow; diversion. **A89:** Diversion SE of Blackburn.

Information supplied by the AA.

The papers

"If Ghandi were alive today and living once more in South Africa, he would be in prison without trial and without hope of release," the Daily Mirror says. "He would be a non-citizen. And for no other reason than he was the wrong colour. That is why Sir Richard Attenborough is mistaken to go to the all-white premiere of his film about Gandhi (in Johannesburg) next week. . . . Sir Richard is dignifying the occasion, not the film."

The Daily Express comments: "The fight by Lech and Danuta Walesa and their followers is not in vain. The very fact that they have not been 'liquidated' is a reassuring sign. The revolt of 1943, by persecuted Polish jews, showed what could happen when a people were provoked beyond endurance. The Warsaw regime dare not risk another uprising, which would finally destroy its claim to legitimacy."

Top films

Top box-office films in London:
1 (1) Gandhi
2 (2) Local Hero
3 (–) Best Friends
4 (6) The Verdict
5 (5) Heat and Dust
6 (7) An Officer and a Gentleman
7 (4) 48 HRS
8 (3) Table for Five
9 (9) The Missionary
10 (10) Robin Hood

The top five in the provinces:
1 Local Hero
2 Gandhi
3 The Dark Crystal
4 The Best Master
5 ET

Compiled by Screen International

Weather forecast

An anticyclone will move slowly E across S England. A weak trough of low pressure will approach NW Scotland later.

6 am to midnight

London, East Anglia, SE Central S and N, E, SW, NW and NE England, Channel Islands, Wales: Dry, sunny periods, some mist or fog patches soon dispersing; wind variable, light; max 11-13C (52-55F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, SW Scotland, N Ireland: Dry, sunny intervals, becoming cloudier; wind SW, light or moderate; max 12C (54F).

Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow: Bright intervals, cloud thickening from W; wind W, moderate; max 12C (54F).

Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE and NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy, some drizzle, cloud thickening from W, rain later, heavy in places; wind SW, moderate or fresh; max 9C (48F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Dry in many areas, becoming unsettled with showers or rain. Warm in S at first, otherwise normal temperatures.

S North Sea: Wind NW to W moderate or fresh; sea slight to moderate. **Straits of Dover:** Wind W light or moderate; sea slight. **English Channel (E):** Wind variable, light; sea smooth. **St George's Channel:** Wind W light or moderate; sea slight. **Irish Sea:** Wind W moderate, becoming fresh or strong; sea slight becoming rough.

Sun rises: 6.06 am. Sun sets: 7.56 pm.
Moon rises: 7.24 am. Moon sets: 10.49 pm.
First quarter: April 20.

Lighting-up time

London 8.26 pm to 5.34 am
Bristol 8.36 pm to 5.44 am
Edinburgh 8.48 pm to 5.37 am
Manchester 8.39 pm to 5.38 am
Penzance 8.45 pm to 5.56 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday:

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	s	12	54	Guernsey	c	10	50
Birmingham	c	10	50	Inverness	r	11	52
Blackpool	c	8	46	Jersey	c	9	48
Bristol	c	11	52	London	c	12	54
Cardiff	c	12	54	Manchester	c	9	48
Edinburgh	c	10	50	Newcastle	c	9	48
Glasgow	c	11	52	Ronaldsway	s	10	50

London

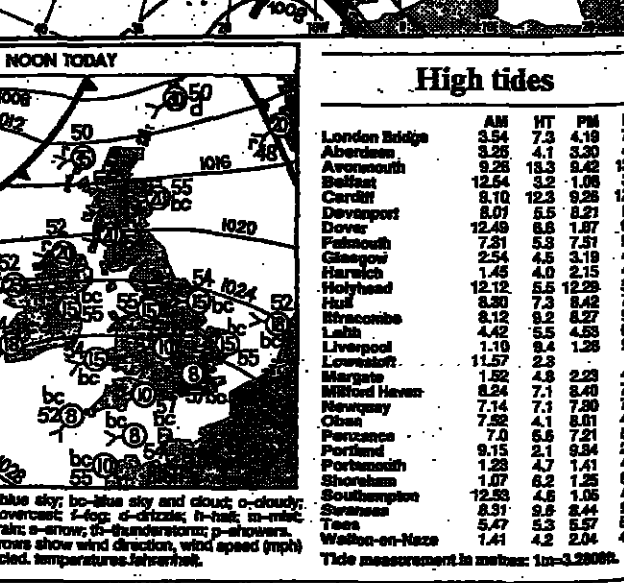
Yesterday: Temp: max 7 am to 7 pm, 13C (55F); min 7 pm to 7 am, 6C (43F). Humidity: 7 pm, 54 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 7 pm, trace. Sun: 24hr to 7 pm, 3.6hr. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1028.8 millibars, falling.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

Highest and lowest

Highest day temp: Newquay, 15C (59F); lowest day max: Lerwick, 8C (46F); highest rainfall: Lerwick, 0.27in; highest sunshine: Falmouth, Newquay, 9.5hr.

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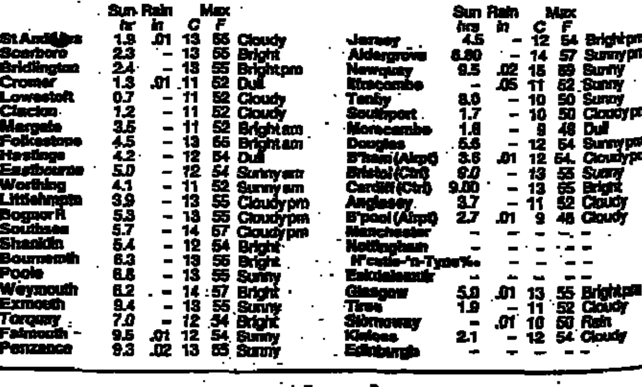


b-blue sky; bc-blue sky and cloud; c-cloudy; o-overcast; f-fog; d-drizzle; h-hail; m-mist; r-rain; s-snow; th-thunderstorm; p-showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. temperatures fahrenheit.

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	3.54	7.3	4.19	7.3
Aberdeen	3.25	4.1	3.30	4.3
Avonmouth	9.26	13.3	9.42	13.3
Belfast	12.54	3.2	1.08	3.3
Cardiff	9.10	12.3	9.26	12.2
Devonport	8.01	5.5	8.21	5.4
Dover	12.49	6.6	1.07	6.5
Falmouth	7.31	5.3	7.51	5.2
Glasgow	2.54	4.5	3.19	4.6
Harwich	1.45	4.0	2.15	4.0
Holyhead	12.12	5.5	12.29	5.7
Hull	8.30	7.3	8.42	7.5
Ilfracombe	8.12	9.2	8.27	9.2
Leith	4.42	5.5	4.58	5.6
Liverpool	1.10	9.4	1.26	9.5
Lowestoft	11.57	2.3		
Margate	1.52	4.8	2.23	4.8
Milford Haven	8.24	7.1	8.40	7.1
Newquay	7.14	7.1	7.30	7.1
Oban	7.52	4.1	8.01	4.0
Penzance	7.0	5.6	7.21	5.5
Portland	9.15	2.1	9.34	2.1
Portsmouth	1.23	4.7	1.41	4.6
Shoreham	1.07	6.2	1.25	6.2
Southampton	12.53	4.6	1.05	4.5
Swansea	8.31	9.6	8.44	9.6
Tees	5.47	5.3	5.57	5.5
Walton-on-Naze	1.41	4.2	2.04	4.3

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.



Around Britain

	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
St Andrews	1.9	.01	13	55	Cloudy
Scarboro	2.3	–	13	55	Bright
Bridlington	2.4	–	13	55	Bright pm
Cromer	1.3	.01	11	52	Dull
Lowestoft	0.7	–	11	52	Cloudy
Clacton	1.2	–	11	52	Cloudy
Margate	3.5	–	11	52	Bright am
Folkestone	4.5	–	13	55	Bright am
Hastings	4.2	–	12	54	Dull
Eastbourne	*5.0*	–	*12*	*54*	*Sunny am*
Worthing	4.1	–	11	52	Sunny am
Littlehmptn	3.9	–	13	55	Cloudy pm
Bognor R	5.3	–	13	55	Cloudy pm
Southsea	5.7	–	14	57	Cloudy pm
Shanklin	5.4	–	12	54	Bright
Bournemth	6.3	–	13	55	Bright
Poole	6.8	–	13	55	Sunny
Weymouth	6.2	–	14	57	Bright
Exmouth	9.4	–	13	55	Sunny
Torquay	*7.0*	–	*12*	*54*	*Bright*
Falmouth	9.5	.01	12	54	Sunny
Penzance	9.3	.02	13	55	Sunny

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Jersey	4.5	–	12	54	Bright pm
Aldergrove	6.80	–	14	57	Sunny pm
Newquay	9.5	.02	15	59	Sunny
Ilfracombe	–	.05	11	52	Sunny
Tenby	8.0	–	10	50	Sunny
Southport	1.7	–	10	50	Cloudy pm
Morecambe	1.6	–	9	48	Dull
Douglas	5.6	–	12	54	Sunny pm
B'ham (Airpt)	3.6	.01	12	54	Cloudy pm
Bristol (Ctrl)	*9.0*	–	*13*	*55*	*Sunny*
Cardiff (Ctrl)	9.00	–	13	55	Bright
Anglesey	3.7	–	11	52	Cloudy
B'pool (Airpt)	2.7	.01	9	48	Cloudy
Manchester	–	–	–	–	
Nottingham	–	–	–	–	
N'castle-'n-Tyne	–	–	–	–	
Eskdalemuir	–	–	–	–	
Glasgow	5.0	.01	13	55	Bright pm
Tiree	1.9	–	11	52	Cloudy
Stornoway	–	.01	10	50	Rain
Kinloss	2.1	–	12	54	Cloudy
Edinburgh	–	–	–	–	

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	f	15	59	Copenhgn	f	7	45
Akrotiri	s	19	66	Corfu	f	15	59
Alexandria	f	30	86	Dallas*	s	20	68
Algiers	s	17	63	Dublin	f	11	52
Amsterdam	f	10	50	Dubrovnik	f	13	55
Athens	f	15	59	Faro	f	18	64
Bahrain*	s	26	79	Florence	f	16	61
Barbados*	s	29	84	Frankfurt	c	8	46
Barcelona	f	15	59	Funchal	s	23	73
Beirut				Geneva	f	9	48
Belgrade	r	7	45	Gibraltar	c	17	63
Berlin	r	6	43	Helsinki	f	5	41
Bermuda*	f	21	70	Hongkong*	c	27	81
Biarritz	s	14	57	Innsbruck	c	7	45
Boulogne	s	9	48	Istanbul	f	14	57
Bordeaux	s	13	55	Jeddah*	f	27	81
Brussels	f	10	50	Jo'burg*	f	24	75
Budapest	f	9	48	Karachi*	f	31	88
Buen Aires				Las Palmas	s	26	79
Cairo*	s	24	75	Lisbon	f	20	68
Cape Tn*	f	22	72	Locarno	s	14	57
C'blanca	f	25	77	L Angeles*	s	14	57
Chicago*	c	18	64	Luxembg	c	5	41
Cologne	r	7	45	Madrid	s	19	66

		C	F			C	F
Majorca	f	16	61	Rio de Jan*	s	26	79
Malaga	s	18	64	Rome	f	17	63
Malta	s	18	64	Salzburg	f	5	41
Melbourne*	c	14	57	Sao Paulo*	f	26	79
Mexico C*	s	24	75	S Francisco			
Miami*	f	26	79	Santiago*			
Milan	s	14	57	Seoul*	s	26	79
Montreal*	s	8	46	Singapore*	s	35	95
Moscow	c	2	36	Stockholm	c	5	41
Munich	c	3	37	Strasbourg	f	10	50
Nairobi*	f	28	82	Sydney*	s	17	63
Naples	f	13	55	Tangier	f	21	70
New Delhi*	s	25	77	Tel Aviv	s	25	77
New York*	s	14	57	Tenerife	s	25	77
Nice	s	16	61	Tokyo*	s	20	68
Oslo	s	7	45	Toronto*	c	7	45
Ottawa				Tunis	f	17	63
Paris	c	11	52	Valencia	f	16	61
Peking*	f	21	70	Vancouver*	s	9	48
Perth*	s	25	79	Venice	f	16	61
Prague	r	6	43	Vienna	r	7	45
Reykjavik	c	3	37	Warsaw	c	2	36
Rhodes	f	18	64	Washington*	s	16	61
Riyadh*	c	30	86	Zurich	f	7	45

* denotes Wednesday's figures are latest available